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## HAIFA BLANKETED BY PALL OF SMOKE

### Heavy Losses In Burning Of Shell Oil Tanks

#### Fire Expected To Last For Days

London, Mar. 31. The Stern Gang sabotaged the Shell Oil pipelines at Haifa with three explosions before dawn today, touching off the biggest fire the area has ever known. The fire brigade, assisted by police and military, worked to bring the blaze under control. At 11 a.m. twelve oil storage tanks were burning and a number of buildings on the Shell depot damaged. Damage caused was estimated at \$4,000,000.

It was believed that a number of casualties occurred but early reports gave no details. The Stern Gang distributed pamphlets in Haifa claiming full responsibility for the sabotage.

At dawn, a huge pall of black smoke still blanketed the town as weary firemen fought to control the blaze.

Twelve oil storage tanks, containing many hundred thousand gallons of fuel set alight by an explosion, were still blazing more than seven hours later and smoke was mushrooming hundreds of feet into the air, darkening the sky over Haifa.

The first two of three explosions were reported to have cut the pipeline leading to the Shell Company's plant while the third ignited the tanks. No casualties have been reported so far.

It was later officially stated that eight oil storage tanks were set on fire and completely destroyed, while four others were damaged. Only three tanks are now standing in the plant.

**Continuing For Days?**  
An unofficial estimate of the damage caused was \$4,000,000 according to an announcement by the Palestine Government Public Information Office.

Preliminary investigations into the huge fire confirm the theory that one explosive charge was planted under the pipeline leading to the storage tanks and the second was thrown over the barbed-wire perimeter close to the largest storage tank.

The pipelines burst into flames simultaneously when the charges exploded.

The curfew imposed on the Jewish quarters in Haifa was lifted shortly before noon.

The fire was still blazing strongly at 1 a.m. and it appeared it might continue for several days. Desperate efforts are being made to isolate the fire and to prevent it from spreading.

**A Diversion**  
Other tanks and installations are being wet down constantly with sea water in the hope they could be saved.

One Arab fireman was burned about the body and the job of firefighting was made more difficult through the destruction of two water pumps in the fire.

The explosions apparently were part of a diversionary campaign in an effort to create an opportunity for illegal immigrants on board the "Moledeh" to escape from their British detainers.

Haifa port, shrouded by dense oil smoke, was heavily guarded in anticipation of the "Moledeh's" arrival. No one was allowed to leave or enter the Army was expected to cord

## School Age Raised

London, Mar. 31.

An extra year of compulsory schooling for British children starts tomorrow as the law raising the school leaving age from 14 to 15 becomes effective.

A spokesman from the Ministry of Education said no additional load will actually fall upon the schools until next September.

When the autumn term starts, he said, about 130,000 14-year-olds who otherwise would be permitted to leave school will return to classes.

The Ministry conceded that the additional school year will be a serious strain on Government in view of the current shortage of teachers and books.

## MADAGASCAR ATTACK

Paris, Mar. 31.

The French military camp at Antananarivo, capital of Madagascar, was attacked last night by a band of several hundred men, armed with heavy jungle knives and spears, the French news agency reported from Madagascar today.

The dispatch said that about 20 people were killed of whom eight were Europeans. Military reinforcements are being sent to the scene.—Reuter.

## Brum Mayor On Goodwill Jaunt

Birmingham, Mar. 31.

The Mayor of Birmingham, Alderman A.E. Bradbury, spent Sunday in a German prisoner of war camp at New Birmingham in preparation for his forthcoming goodwill visit to Cologne.

He met 16 prisoners whose homes are in Cologne and received a scroll of greeting, made by the men in the camp, which said, "May this visit be a hopeful sign of understanding and peace among the people and the beginning of a new era." It will be handed to the Bürgermeister of Cologne, Bradbury said.

He told the Germans that the people of Birmingham were hoping to link the townspeople there with their opposite numbers in Cologne and added, "In years to come I hope that many British people will establish personal friendships with Germans and remove forever the fear of war."—Associated Press.

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## Germans Partly To Blame For Crisis

Dusseldorf, Mar. 30.

Prominent British and German spokesmen said tonight that the Germans themselves were partly to blame for the food crisis from which the Ruhr industrial belt has not yet emerged. Dr. Kurt Schumacher, leader of the German Social Democratic Party, told an Oberhausen election audience: "The British are not alone to blame—the Germans must accept some responsibility."

Mr. William Ashbury, Regional Commissioner for North Rhine-Westphalia told Reuter that the worst effects could have been minimised if the Germans had applied "a little more intelligence" in the allocation of coal supplies.

The Ruhr was quiet today and "favourable progress" was officially reported in the current programme to move 6,000 tons of grain a day from Hamburg to the Ruhr.

Senior British officials said there had been no general breakdown but a "temporary local failure of distribution."

**Hooligans.**  
There has been no rioting during the week's demonstrations in which more than 250,000 Germans have taken part and the only disorderly incidents are attributed by the British and German sources to hooligans of a type who attach themselves to any crowd.

The Left Wing parties did not inspire the demonstrations but exercised a wide moderating influence while the trade unions provided "the safety valve," according to Dr. Rudolf Amelunck, Minister Resident in North-Rhine-Westphalia. It is expected, however, that there will be a big demonstration in Cologne, the great Rhineland city that suffered some of the Royal Air Force's heaviest wartime bombing.

Details of the demonstration were not known if it was to be accompanied by strikes as in the other British zone cities.

The husband had asked for a divorce on the ground of desertion. At the conclusion of Lady Robinson's evidence in chief on Friday, in which she denied the charge, Colin Duncan, Sir Arnold's counsel, was allowed to postpone his cross-examination of her as he wished to consult the husband.

Today, Mr. Duncan said that Sir Arnold's instructions to him were that he was not to challenge in any way the evidence his wife had given. "In those circumstances," said counsel, "he asks you to dismiss the petition."

Justice Hodgson dismissed the petition with costs, adding that he thought the husband had been well advised to take the course he had.

The marriage took place at Kuala Lumpur, Federated Malay States, in 1910.—Reuter.

## Steamer Hits Mine

Terschelling, Mar. 30.

A Norwegian steamer described as the "Titan" (9,000 tons) struck a mine while sailing in ballast 40 miles west of the Dutch North Sea island of Texel today.

The crew of 30 who abandoned ship, were taken off by a Dutch fishing vessel, and as far as was known tonight all are safe.

Three tugs from Terschelling and Maasvlugt have gone to help the "Titan," which dropped anchor.

The only "Titan" listed in Lloyd's current shipping register is a 4,880-ton vessel registered at Bergen, Norway.—Reuter.

Copenhagen, Mar. 30. The Faroes Parliament, which adjourned today after a four-month session, has nominated a commission, including seven members of the three Faroes parties, for negotiation with the Danish Government on the future of the Faroes. The Commission, headed by the party leader, A. Samuelsen, P.M. Dam and Thorstein, Petersen, will leave for Copenhagen at the end of April.—Reuter.

## H.K. PLEASE NOTE

Gibraltar, Mar. 30.  
Gibraltar, British Crown Colony with a population of 20,000, may soon have a State lottery, it was learned from a reliable source here today.—Reuter.

## Britain's Birth Rate Soaring

London, Mar. 30.

The population of England and Wales has ceased to dwindle. For the first time in 24 years, the number of babies born exceeds the "replacement level."

Figures are given in the return of the Registrar-General for the final quarter of last year to be published tomorrow. In that quarter 221,891 babies were born, representing a birth rate of 20.5 per thousand of the total population.

This is the highest rate recorded for any December quarter since 1921. For the same quarter of 1945, the rate was 15.3. In 1940 it was 13.0.

The birthrate for the whole of 1946 was 19.1 per thousand, the highest since 1923 and 4.4 per thousand higher than in 1938.

From 1938, the birth rate fell steadily to 14.1 in 1941. There was then an upward curve in the next three years, a drop of 1.4 in 1946 and then a jump of 3.0 per thousand in the population last year.—Reuter.

## De Gaulle Appeals For Unity

Paris, Mar. 30.

Breaking six months' silence, General de Gaulle told the French people today that the voice of dissension, which meant decadence, had been allowed to obscure national interests.

He was speaking on the hill above the beach at Bruneval, 12 miles north of Havre, where on the night of Feb. 28, 1942, a British and Canadian Commando raid took place to destroy German radio location apparatus after French Resistance groups had provided the Allies with plans of the district.

Appealing for French unity and Anglo-French cooperation in a world which was becoming "increasingly hard," he declared that France today had lost her spirit of unity, which the French Resistance groups had shown in the Bruneval operation.

He said that he looked forward to the day when France would "reform the battered ranks of the country."

**"Noble England"**  
There were loud cheers when General de Gaulle spoke of "Noble England" and shouts of "De Gaulle in power" marked the end of his speech.

Appealing for French unity, General de Gaulle said: "The day will come when in their entire masses the French people will fling away these unprofitable games and reform the battered ranks of the country."

Strengthening the part played by the Bruneval expedition, he said: "The Bruneval operation showed for the first time that the French system of information, which was built up in the midst of the enemy, could one day be used by relieving forces from overseas."

The ceremony was held up for nearly two hours because the car taking the British Ambassador, Mr. Duff Cooper, to Bruneval broke down.—Reuter.

**THE WEATHER**  
A moderate anticyclone is stationary over Japan with a wide belt of high pressure extending SW to Formosa. Another anticyclone is developing steadily over Western Mongolia. A trough of low pressure is stationary over Central and NW China. Today's forecast is: mainly cloudy, with rain or drizzle at times, mainly cloudy, with rain or drizzle at times, mainly cloudy, with rain or drizzle at times.

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## Canton-Hongkong Co-Operation Chamber Of Commerce Statement On Trade

Canton, Mar. 31.

Desire for very close Canton-Hong Kong co-operation for the furtherance of trade was expressed by Mr. Ho Teap-ting, chairman of the Canton Chamber of Commerce, in an interview with Associated Press yesterday, following his recent goodwill mission to the British Colony.

"I am much impressed by the Hong Kong, stated that the Canton Chamber of Commerce has accepted his suggestion of setting up a research committee for the promotion of Sino-foreign trade."

An organ of the Kwangtung Provincial Government, the Corporation is seeking raw materials from abroad for its factories here with the object of supplying essential products to the masses in this province at reasonable prices, Mr. Wu added.—Associated Press.

## Volunteers Man Ship's Engines

Liverpool, Mar. 30.

When the liner Sarpedon arrived here today from the Far East, it was learnt that European volunteers stoked the boilers for 21 days after a strike among 50 Chinese members of the crew.

The volunteers, mainly drawn from the catering staff, worked in the engine room from Sydney, Australia, to Singapore, a voyage that took 21 days instead of the normal 14.

The Chinese, who struck work at Sydney, were gaoled for desertion. Other seamen and firemen were signed on at Singapore to complete the trip to England.—Reuter.

Vatican City, Mar. 30. The Pope today received the traditional palm furnished to the Vatican by the Brocchi Family of San Remo since the 16th Century. The Campaldolense nuns of the Convent of Santa Prisca on the Aventine Hill presented a palm to the Pope yesterday.—United Press.

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## Murder Case At Sessions

Hearing of the case in which Cheuk Chau, Cheung Kee Cheong, Lau Mun, Li Yau, Mak Kau alias Mak Kam Shing and Chan Yui Shu alias Ho Lau Chiu, who are charged with the murder of Hui Chi and Hui Hung and with the attempted murder of Chan Tak Hing in Deep Bay on Oct. 12, last, started before His Lordship Mr. Justice Williams (Puisne Judge) at the Criminal Sessions yesterday.

Mr. A. J. Clifford appeared for the Crown. The first accused was represented by Mr. Y. H. Pun, instructed by Mr. A. S. C. Comer of Messrs. Haastings & Company. The other five accused were represented by Mr. Hui Shing-Lu, instructed by Mr. C. A. S. Russ.

The case for the Crown is that between 8 and 9 p.m. on Oct. 12, at Lau Fau Shan Village on the British shore of Deep Bay, Hui Chi, Hui Hung and Chan Tak Hing were seized and bound by a gang of seven or eight men. They were put in a rowing boat and taken to a part of Deep Bay roughly between the British and Chinese shores.

The anchor was dropped, the three victims shot and their bodies thrown overboard. Of the three victims, two died and the third succeeding in reaching land after an amazing feat of endurance — he swam in the water for almost four hours, although his hands were tied behind his back and he was badly wounded.

After receiving assistance from villagers, he reported to the Pingshan Police Station, as a result of which the accused were subsequently arrested. After testimony by Crown witnesses, hearing was adjourned till 10 a.m. today.

## NABCATCHER IN NEW GUISE

The Admiralty have given directions that the Naval Air Section at Kai Tak, hitherto known as H.M.S. "Nabcatcher," is to be renamed H.M.S. "Flycatcher." The change will take place today.

H.M.S. "Nabcatcher" was originally part of the wartime Mobile Naval Air Base organization, the units of which bore names having the initial letters NAB. As this organization has now been disbanded, the name is no longer applicable.

"Flycatcher" has been selected as the new name in view of the fact that the first type of naval aircraft ever to land at Kai Tak was a Fairey "Flycatcher."

# KNIGHT STREET CASE

## Cross-Examination Of Plaintiff

"Ten thousand dollars is not very much to me," said Mrs. Kathleen Wong Choy in reply to a question put to her by Sir Henry Blackall, C.J. in the course of her cross-examination yesterday, when hearing was resumed of the case in which the ownership of 4 Knight Street is being contested.

Mrs. Kathleen Wong Choy, plaintiff, is represented by the Hon. Mr. Leo d'Almeida e Castro instructed by Mr. W.C. Hing of Messrs. Deacons. Mr. C.E. Loseby, instructed by Mr. M.A. da Silva, is appearing for Mrs. Bertha Kurtz Pears, the defendant.

Answering further questions under cross-examination, Mrs. Wong said that apart from the document of Jan. 20, 1942, which she gave to Dr. Ho authorizing him to look after her property, she signed no other document of authorization to anybody else.

Mrs. Wong said that she had a current account with the National City Bank of New York, but at the time she left Hong Kong, the Japanese authorities did not permit any withdrawals. Mrs. Wong denied that she came back to Hong Kong from Macao in February or March to attend to some pressing business.

She had jewellery and title deeds in two safe deposit boxes at the Bank of East Asia. This jewellery was in addition to that which she wore.

Mrs. Wong said that she always had ready cash at home, sometimes as much as \$10,000. When it was pointed out to Mrs. Wong by Sir Henry that \$10,000 was a large amount to keep at home, Mrs. Wong replied that \$10,000 was not very much to her. The money was kept in a steel safe.

She knew that the Japanese called in all U.S. Currency and that it was dangerous to use this money.

Mrs. Wong agreed that at the time cash was more important than property. She knew that when she reached Kwongchowwan or "Free China" she would receive funds.

### Not True

It would not be true to say that she needed cash to get away from Hong Kong as quickly as possible. She never thought of leaving one or two of her houses nor did she offer to sell two houses for \$60,000.

Mrs. Pears denied that Mrs. Pears helped her out of a great difficulty. Mrs. Wong also denied having obtained \$20,000 from Mrs. Pears or that she had decided to support Dr. Ho in a story which was false.

When Dr. Ho visited her in Macao, he also brought cash in Hong Kong Currency, including drafts in U.S. Currency. Mrs. Wong said that she kept money at home and in her

## Coming Events

April 1—Rotary Club luncheon; Speaker: Compton MacKenzie.  
April 2—K.C.C. Dance.  
April 3 and 7—Easter Race Meeting.  
April 11—Watsonian Club dinner (tentative date).  
April 11 and 12—K.C.C. Play: "A Worm's Eye View."  
April 12—China Light & Power Co., Ltd., annual meeting, noon.  
April 21—H.K. Land Investment & Agency Ltd., shareholders' meeting, noon.

she had a conversation with Mrs. Wong, in the course of which the latter said that she could not be able to leave for Macao until the following Monday, as she was assisting at a Y.W.C.A. charity bazaar.

Mrs. Au said she left Hong Kong because she believed war to be imminent.  
Replying to Mr. Loseby, Mrs. Au said she believed war to be imminent by reason of the fact that on Tuesday the doors of the Police Stations were half closed. She therefore decided to leave Hong Kong.

Lim Tih-tung Kwie, retired sugar merchant, said that he had been housed at 244 Prince Edward Road since the beginning of 1943. He knew Mrs. Wong as a neighbour, but never spoke to her. He only knew Dr. Ho Che Wing after the latter had moved in to 246 Prince Edward Road. The latter introduced himself.

Lim said that in January 1942, he went to Waterloo Road, where he saw Mrs. Wong. She said that she wanted to go to Macao for treatment to give her daughter Agnes, who was now a Carmelite nun.

### Counsel Objects

At this point, Mr. Leo d'Almeida raised strong objection to the manner in which Mr. Silva was instructing Mr. Loseby, whereupon Mr. Silva left the Court for a short while, returning again after an absence of some 15 minutes.

Resuming his testimony, Father Orlando said that he continued visiting Mrs. Wong until Jan. 22, 1942. On Jan. 20, 1942, he officiated at a wedding between a cousin of Mrs. Wong and a gentleman named Wong.

On objection being raised by Mr. Loseby to a question being put to Father Orlando, Mr. d'Almeida said he would ask no further questions but would request Father Orlando to stand down.

In answer to Sir Henry, Father Orlando said he never saw Mrs. Wong in Hong Kong after Jan. 22, 1942. He saw her next after the liberation. Father Orlando said that a large number of people left Hong Kong on Jan. 22, 1942. Many of them were his parishioners and they came to see him and to say good-bye. He remembered the date because it was the date of his mother's death.

Yue Wing Kam, Manager of the Mutual Trust Co., said that the Wong family were very well off. They owned property in Kowloon and Canton. Yue said he left Hong Kong for Macao with Mrs. Wong and her family on Jan. 24, 1942.

Smuggled Out  
At Macao, they stayed in the house of Mrs. Au Fong Po. Yue said that in early May, he and Mrs. Au left Macao for Kwongchowwan together with Mrs. Wong and family.

While in Macao, he saw Mrs. Wong every day. He had been asked by General Wong to take care of Mrs. Wong and family and would not have allowed her to come back to Hong Kong if she wished to do so. It would have been too risky for her to come back. Mrs. Wong never suggested to him that she wished to come back to Hong Kong.

Yue said he received a loan of \$4,000 from Mrs. Wong, which had since been repaid. Under cross-examination, Yue said that prior to leaving Hong Kong, Mrs. Wong handed him \$3,000 U.S. Currency. He smuggled this out of the Colony by concealing the money in different coats.

Mrs. Au Fong Po, otherwise known as Lau Siu Wai, said that she had known Mrs. Wong for over ten years.

Mrs. Au said that she left Hong Kong for Macao on Dec. 4, 1942, where she remained until some time in May/June 1943. Mrs. Wong arrived in Macao during January 1943 and later went to Kwongchowwan together.

Mrs. Au said that she had a house in Macao and that she allowed Mrs. Wong and her family to use the ground floor on their arrival. Mrs. Au said that she saw Mrs. Wong every day. Mrs. Wong never left Macao prior to going to Kwongchowwan. Mrs. Au said that she never heard Mrs. Wong, while in Macao, suggesting that she wished to return to Hong Kong.

### A Letter

During her stay in Macao, Mrs. Wong never asked for any cash nor gave any impression that she needed money.

Mrs. Au said that before she left Hong Kong on Dec. 4, 1942, she had a conversation with Mrs. Wong, in the course of which the latter said that she could not be able to leave for Macao until the following Monday, as she was assisting at a Y.W.C.A. charity bazaar.

Mrs. Au said she left Hong Kong because she believed war to be imminent. Replying to Mr. Loseby, Mrs. Au said she believed war to be imminent by reason of the fact that on Tuesday the doors of the Police Stations were half closed. She therefore decided to leave Hong Kong.

## A Friendly Game?

Wong Luk, 44, and twenty-six other Chinese were having a "friendly game" of *pu-kai* in the rear room of the ground floor at 6 Lai Chi Kok Road on Sunday when they were disturbed by Sub-Inspector Blackbourn, and bundled off to the Mong Kok Police Station.

Charged before Mr. Blair-Kerr yesterday with keeping a common gaming house, Wong denied the charge and said they were just having a friendly game. Inspector J. Oram, convinced His Worship

the contrary by bringing to light the fact that Wong was the "banker," and that he resided at 42 Lai Chi Kok Road. Wong was fined \$400, and the 19 gamblers who appeared in Court \$15. The seven absentees had their bail of \$25 each exonerated. The \$201.40 table-money seized was ordered to be confiscated to the Poor Box.

## Readers' Letters

**Income Tax**  
Sir, I was flabbergasted to read that an association has been formed in Hongkong to oppose the proposed Income Tax in the Colony; the effort of these people takes a lot of beating. They make a point of demanding that the views of the people should be heard before a decision is made.

Let us begin by supposing that some of the members of the new association are men who stayed on in Hongkong during the Japanese occupation; that some have found conditions in other places so difficult that they have sought for and found a colony where the administration maintains such law and order that they can go about their business free from molestation. Some of those who stayed here under the Japanese probably made money (and would they have dared to form an association then?) some of those who stayed elsewhere by manipulating the Hongkong dollar, thereby helping the Japanese war effort (and would those who have come from China dare form associations there?)

When Hongkong became British again, these and many others fled to this Colony. Let us not forget those who sold 30 cent packets of cigarettes for \$2 and even \$3, etc. Let us not forget those who have battered on the rent racket. Let us not forget those who have been directly responsible for the keeping up of prices. Let us not forget those who are responsible for the corruption referred to in the speeches of our learned unofficiaries. It is a pity that Income Tax was not enforced when the British retook Hongkong; a great many irregularities might have been avoided.

I am beginning to feel that it is not reluctance to pay taxes which motivates the Anti-Tax Association, but fear of disclosure of irregularities. If the Tax, therefore, does nothing more than help to keep down irregularities then it will have achieved something worth while.

And then, perhaps, we will have less of this scrambling and rushing for money. Then, perhaps, we may recapture a little of the old quiet and contentment which prevailed in Hongkong once upon a time.

And if the poor, those living on the verge of destitution, and those many others who are struggling and who form the great majority of the population of Hongkong, are asked for their views on this important subject of Income Tax, they will declare, by an overwhelming majority, that they are in entire accord with the proposal.

As for those who are not satisfied to pay their just share, out of the profits which they are making in Hongkong; so that the social amenities of this place may be maintained; why, I would then suggest that they go elsewhere to some other place, say to Japan and their Japanese friends, or wherever they can pile up their fortunes without the necessity of paying this Tax.

**OLD TIMER**  
Sir, Back to life again. I must congratulate several of our Unofficial members in the Legislative Council, notably Dr. S. N. Chiu and Mr. Leo d'Almeida for the manner in which they are endeavoring to "play Government's hand" in rushing the Income Tax Law as a "fait accompli."

There is very little I can usefully add to what has already been said. I am, however, very much interested in the approval from the public at large

whereas "direct" taxation will only meet with "boos." If we have a Government of the People, for the People and by the People there can be no question but that the proposed legislation will by now have been buried.

Our eminent and learned Banker, Mr. Morse, saw fit to include in his annual speech undivided support for the proposed "income tax" and so did his successor, the no less eminent scholar Mr. Sloan, who emphasized the fate of "Al Capone." If my geography serves me right, Chicago, Ill., is surrounded by United States territory for many miles whilst this precious island of ours is surrounded by water and Chinese territory for as many miles.

I do not consider myself eminent, much less learned, but I do feel that I am gifted with some commonsense. But were I only possessed of "horse sense" I would "taboo" all further thought of "direct" taxation as, after all, Revenue is what Government requires then why not get it the easy way—the way the majority of the public prefer?

Painless extraction is so much more pleasant than rough-shod methods.

**RIGOR MORIS.**  
**CIVIL SERVANT TO WED**  
The forthcoming wedding of Selwyn John Walter, Civil Servant, living at the French Mission, Battery Path, Hong Kong, and Beryl Mary Gillman, Peninsula Hotel, is announced.

**REMANDED**  
On the application of DSI Sykes, Lai Yui, 34, coolie, and Wong Yau Lin, 30, unemployed, were remanded for three days in Police custody by Mr. Blair-Kerr yesterday. Lai and Wong were charged with robbing while armed. Leung, a woman of a ladies' hairdressing shop, was remanded for three days in Police custody for robbing the husband and father-in-law, with unlawful possession of the handbag.

**Alleged Statement**  
Lai Yui, accused, was alleged to have further stated, came out with "four" statements, all heavily loaded and given on two days' carry. Three of these statements were given by Lai Yui, who was charged with robbing the husband and father-in-law, with unlawful possession of the handbag.

**DEBATE AT TOC H**  
At the meeting of ToC H this evening there will be a debate and the motion is "That this House is of the opinion that Class Distinctions should be eliminated from the sphere of life." The speakers, for and against the Resolution respectively, will be the Rev. J. Davies and Mr. Spencer Dunkley.

One of the aims of ToC H is set out in its Royal Charter is to "mitigate by mind, word and deed the evils of class-consciousness and to endeavor to create a body of public opinion free of all social distinctions."

## Stanley Jap. Medico On Trial

At No. 7 War Crimes Court this morning the War Crimes Trial of Lieutenant Sato Choichi will open.

He is accused of committing a war crime in Hong Kong, between October 1932 and August, 1945 when he was Medical Officer in charge of Stanley Gao Hospital and, as such, was responsible for the well-being of British and Chinese prisoners who were patients.

The charge alleges that in violation of the laws and usages of war he was concerned in the ill-treatment of the prisoners by failing to provide them with adequate medical attention, including medicine, drugs and suitable diet, thereby contributing to the deaths of many of them and causing physical suffering to others.

The President of the Court will be Lt. Colonel N. C. Wait.

## Commander Ryder Leaving To-Day

Comdr. A. S. D. Ryder, Hong Kong's popular Deputy Harbour Master and Marine Magistrate, took his last case in the Marine Court yesterday when he administered a caution to two enterprising junkmen who brought a cargo of livestock from Kwongchowwan to the Colony when they held no certificates of competency to operate the junk. Today, HMS "Opossum" will be taking the Commander and Mrs. Ryder to the island of Formosa, where he will take up his new post as Vice-Consul.

Comdr. Ryder is no stranger to Hong Kong or the Far East, for he was here for 2½ years when H.M.S. "Medway," the submarine depot ship to which he was attached, was based here.

After the ship was transferred to Shanghai to act as naval staff officer, attached to H.M. Consulate General, where his duties consisted of intelligence work. He had been in the northern port for three years when the European War broke out and he was transferred Home for duty.

During the war Comdr. Ryder's work with the Navy was principally connected with sea defence. He was first at Dover; from there he was transferred to Alexandria and then to Turkey, where he organized the defences of several Turkish ports and acted as Naval adviser to the Turkish Government, attached to the British Embassy at Ankara.

Upon the formation of S.E.A.C. Comdr. Ryder was appointed to his staff as representative of Naval Intelligence, and placed in charge of the operational intelligence section.

This post he held until the Japanese surrender in August 1945, when he retired from the Royal Navy and joined the Colonial Office for duty in civil affairs with the Military Administration in Hong Kong.

**High Ability**  
He was flown out to Hong Kong, arriving on Sept. 23, 1945. He took up the post of Harbour Master at a time when everything was in a jumble, but under his able administration and guidance order was soon restored out of chaos, and when Mr. J. Jolly, the pre-war Harbour Master, returned to the Colony, he took over a Harbour Department functioning with more than pre-war efficiency.

Though he has always been a Navy man, Comdr. Ryder's services were very congenial, and his promotion to a higher post testifies to recognition of his high administrative ability.

Comdr. Ryder went to sea when still a boy. At fifteen he was a midshipman in the "Centurion" in action at the Battle of Jutland in the First World War. When war ended he spent a considerable period as a submarine officer, specialising in anti-submarine and electrical duties.

Mrs. Ryder, who was in London throughout the blitz and led quite an exciting life, for no less than two of the houses she was in were bombed and demolished when she was out. Sleeping in tube stations and floors of houses was no unusual experience. Later she married and put up with the wife of a naval officer in a safer area in South Wales.

Comdr. and Mrs. Ryder are leaving behind them a host of friends in the Colony who wish them the best of luck and success in the new sphere of their activity and usefulness.

**BOYS' CLUBS' THANKS**  
The Committee of the Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association wish to express their gratitude to the following who either helped or assisted in connection with the Fair held on the Murray Parade Ground on Feb. 1:—

Nan Kank & Co., Davis, Hong & Co., Ltd., The Asia Company, J. H. & Co., Ltd., & American Tobacco Co., Alex. Cheong & Co., Yung Sang Electronics, China Emporium, De Schultze & Co., M. A. Annet & Co., Mrs. Ho Shing-chau, Mr. K. F. Fung, Mr. Ho Shing-chau, The Dairy Farm, Land Transport and T. H.

**Krishna Silk Store Robbery Sequel**  
The Police have been very fortunate in the present case as it is very rarely that such a large quantity of stolen goods has been recovered, declared Police Prosecutor C. J. Askew at the conclusion of the hearing of the case, by Mr. W. A. Blair-Kerr, against Lai Kwan alias Lai Shing-kwan, 21 casual coolie, on a charge of receiving stolen property.

Declaring that he had to take a very serious view of the case as the accused was practically a witness to the robbery and was arrested on the premises (where approximately 80 per cent. of the stolen goods were found by Detective Mak Cheuk) His Worship sentenced defendant to two years' hard labour.

S/J Askew said that a report was received on Feb. 22 by the Talimtsatui Police that the Krishna Silk Store had been broken into and approximately \$30,000 worth of goods stolen. The doors and gateways were secured by nine different locks which, it was alleged, had been opened by duplicate keys. The shutters were found to have been forced by a cargo hook.

Defendant was arrested as the result of information supplied by one Li Dong, a trader in Wanchai, who was taken into custody when he presented the stolen cheque at the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank for payment.

When questioned, Lai said that at about 7 a.m. on Feb. 22 he was walking along Nathan Road when he met Li Yui, a man he knew from Canton, who told him that there was something for him to do. He was then brought to 2B Hankow Road where the Police arrested him. Lai, who was employed as a feld in the shop and who had access to all the keys, left him outside to wait.

**Alleged Statement**  
Li Yui, accused, was alleged to have further stated, came out with "four" statements, all heavily loaded and given on two days' carry. Three of these statements were given by Lai Yui, who was charged with robbing the husband and father-in-law, with unlawful possession of the handbag.

**REMANDED**  
On the application of DSI Sykes, Lai Yui, 34, coolie, and Wong Yau Lin, 30, unemployed, were remanded for three days in Police custody by Mr. Blair-Kerr yesterday. Lai and Wong were charged with robbing while armed. Leung, a woman of a ladies' hairdressing shop, was remanded for three days in Police custody for robbing the husband and father-in-law, with unlawful possession of the handbag.

**FOOD FIGURES**  
The average of the Food and Fuel figures for the four (4) weeks ending 20.3.47 is \$14,320.3. The Rehabilitation Allowance for the month of April will therefore be the same as for the month of March namely:—

**Daily-paid Workers**  
Artisans ..... \$3.20 per day  
Coolies ..... \$2.50  
Females ..... \$1.05  
**Monthly-paid Workers**  
Males ..... \$30.00 per month  
Females ..... \$24.60  
Costs for the week ending 25.3.47:—  
Rice & Flour ..... 7.2 cwt. \$12,000  
Vegetables ..... 1.0 ..... 5000  
Salt Cabbages ..... 5 ..... 1,500  
Oil ..... 2 ..... 5,000  
Tea ..... 2 ..... 5,000  
Salt Fish ..... 2 ..... 5,000  
Fish ..... 2 ..... 5,000  
Pork ..... 2 ..... 5,000  
Firewood ..... 10.5 ..... 5,000  
Beans Cured, 14 pieces ..... 7,000  
Total ..... \$14,320

**REMANDED**  
On the application of DSI Sykes, Lai Yui, 34, coolie, and Wong Yau Lin, 30, unemployed, were remanded for three days in Police custody by Mr. Blair-Kerr yesterday. Lai and Wong were charged with robbing while armed. Leung, a woman of a ladies' hairdressing shop, was remanded for three days in Police custody for robbing the husband and father-in-law, with unlawful possession of the handbag.

The world's famous ---  
**SCHLITZ BEER**

NOW ONLY \$23.50 PER  
ONLY \$23.50 PER  
OF 24 PINTS BOTTLES



Sole Agents

**L. RONDON & CO.**

French Bank Bldg. (5, Queen's Road, C.) Tel. 30400

L. RONDON & CO.  
French Bank Bldg.  
Hong Kong

Please supply ..... carton/s of SCHLITZ BEER.

Name .....  
Address .....



# CHINA ENTERTAINMENT ANNUAL MEETING

A net profit of \$393,948.76 for the year ending Dec. 31, 1946, was announced at the 13th annual meeting of China Entertainment & Land Investment Co. Ltd. (owners of King's Theatre and King's Theatre Building), held at the office of the company yesterday.

The Chairman of Directors, Sir Shouson Chow, who presided, informed shareholders that yesterday happened to be also the 16th anniversary of King's Theatre, and to celebrate the occasion the Board recommended a bonus to shareholders, directors and the staff. This motion was heartily approved by the meeting.

Sir Shouson Chow said in part:—

"I am very pleased to report that the net profit for the year, after providing for depreciation, and including the balance of \$16,000.07 brought forward from last year, amounts to \$393,948.76 which I think represents a fairly successful working year."

"During the Japanese occupation it was not possible to keep up our theatrical overheads and maintenance of the theatre and equipment. After the liberation materials were scarce and cost of labor high, and it was therefore only quite recently that we were able to put this necessary work in hand. The theatre is now renovated and decorated with necessary new equipment including and old equipment replaced, and I think I can say that King's Theatre today offers to its patrons seating, comfort, sound and projection which can be very favorably compared with cinemas in other theatres."

"During the past year the management have been careful in the selection of films which were chosen specially to suit the tastes of our patrons, both Chinese and foreign. Among our outstanding pictures of the year may be mentioned 'Henry V', 'Casar & Cleopatra' and 'The Sign of the Cross'. The last named, a spectacular musical comedy, setting an all-time record in Hong Kong for length of run in any theatre."

**High Standard**  
"The same care in the choice of films from our major distributors is being continued this year. Our policy is to maintain that high standard of entertainment."

**EAT, DRINK & BE MERRY AT THE COCKTAIL BAR RESTAURANT**

369-371, Nathan Road, Kowloon.  
BEST FOOD!  
BEST DRINK!  
"SERVED WITH A SMILE"

## RADIO

ZBW Hong Kong broadcasting on a frequency of 845 kilocycles from 12.30 to 2.00 p.m. and 6.00 to 11.00 p.m. and also on 952 megacycles in the 31 metre band from 12.30 to 1.15, 5.30 to 7.30 and 9.00 to 11.00 p.m.

12.30 p.m.—Daily Programme Summary.  
12.32 p.m.—The Melody Lingers On.  
12.47 p.m.—Henry Goodman and His Orchestra.

1.00 p.m.—News, Weather Report and Announcements.  
1.10 p.m.—Orchestral Interlude.  
1.15 p.m.—D'Erincourt's "The Hundred Kiloes"—London Philharmonic Orchestra.

1.30 p.m.—"From the Show"—Light Opera.  
2.00 p.m.—Chow Down.  
6.30 p.m.—Tones of Not-So-Long-Ago.  
7.00 p.m.—London Relay: World News.  
7.10 p.m.—London Relay: Home News from Britain.

7.15 p.m.—Dinah Shore and The Ink Spots.  
7.30 p.m.—Studio: George Ladd at the Piano.  
7.50 p.m.—Magyar Jure and His Hungarian Gypsy Orchestra.  
8.00 p.m.—Yvonne Brubaker (Soprano) and George Brubaker (Tenor) in "The Light French Programme—No. 1."

8.30 p.m.—Studio: Musical Forms—No. 2—The Concerto, A Talk by Father T. F. Ryan, S.J.  
9.00 p.m.—London Relay: News.  
9.10 p.m.—Light Variety.  
9.45 p.m.—Studio: "At Your Own Risk." A Programme for "April Fool's Day" devised and produced by Donald Bickel and Edmund Scott.

10.15 p.m.—Relay of the Dance Orchestra from the Ambassador Ballroom.  
11.00 p.m.—Chow Down.

## "JANE"



BOOTS AND HER BUDDIES

Out With It

By EDGAR MARTIN



## Bufs Private In Court

A fine of \$100 was imposed on Pte. Biggs of the Buffs by Mr. H. G. Sheldon at Central yesterday when he was found guilty of disorderly conduct in a land near Oriental Buildings on March 28 at 12.45 a.m.

L. Cpl. MacCauley, who was also charged with him, was discharged. Defendants were at first charged with wilfully obstructing the police in the execution of their duty.

Evidence was given by Hui Tak-ying, a constable, who said that at 12.45 a.m. on March 28 his attention was attracted by the shouts of "Save life." He went into the lane and saw five soldiers and a woman. He told the woman to go away, which she did. Two of the men then came up to him. The first defendant put his left hand on his shoulder and the second on his revolver. The second defendant also came up to him. They used abusive language. He blew his whistle and another constable came up. The defendants then ran away. Later in the company of two European Sub-inspectors he pointed out the men who were arrested near the Naval Yard.

In reply to Lt. Honour, for the defence, witness said that he was certain of first accused but not so sure of the second.

Evidence was also given by the other constable and the Europeans who arrested them.

Several witnesses were called by the defence. Pte. Biggs and Pte. Duffy stated that they saw defendant at 11.15 p.m. in the Fleet Club, and later at the Black Cat Cafe. They saw them up to 12.45 a.m. when they lost sight of defendant near Wellington Barracks. Cpl. Heath said that he was with them at 12.45 a.m. and again at 1.15 a.m. in the Guard room. He did not know of their movements during that time.

In the witness box, both accused said that they went to the Cinema Club at 8.30 the previous evening, then to the 7.30 p.m. show at the Queen's after which they went to the Fleet Club and thence to the Black Cat Cafe. They were returning to barracks and back to the Naval Yard in that order.

After discharging second accused Mr. Sheldon said that he was satisfied that there was a scuffle. Had he thought that there was any intention of getting the revolver, it would have been a very serious offence. He found the offence less serious and imposed a fine of \$100.

## Happy Occasion

"I do not know whether shareholders are aware of the fact or not, but today, March 31, is the 10th anniversary of King's Theatre, and to celebrate the happy occasion we have decided on giving a bonus to shareholders, directors, staff, and the staff, the first payment of the kind since the company was formed. This action, I am sure, meets with your approval."

The adoption of the Report and Accounts was seconded by the Hon. Mr. T. N. Chow, who expressed the pleasure of shareholders in the satisfactory result of the year's working, and their thanks to the management and staff for their hard work.

Messrs. Cheng Kwai-cho and Lee Li-chi were re-elected to the Board on the motion of Mr. Li Shiu-chung, seconded by Mr. Cheng Kwai-cho.

Messrs. Perry Smith & Co., were re-appointed auditors on the motion of Mr. Li Shiu-chung, seconded by Mr. Cheng Kwai-cho.

Supporting Sir Shouson Chow in the chair were Mr. H. W. Tse, and Messrs. Liang Chih-lan, Li Li-chi, Choy Wah-hung, Cheng Kwai-cho, Cheng Kwai-cho, Cheng Kwai-cho, Cheng Kwai-cho, and Gen. Y. K. Sun (Directors).

Shareholders present including the Hon. Mr. T. N. Chow and Messrs. Li Shiu-chung, Li Fung, Cheng Kwai-cho, Cheng Kwai-cho, and Li Fung.

## Money Mart

The money market reopened after the weekend with rates slightly on the upward trend.

Gold opened steady at \$270.50 a tael and closed at \$270.25. Fluctuations were between \$274.50 and \$270.25.

Plastics opened at \$11.80 per 100 and closed at \$11.30.

Chinese National Currency advanced slightly and closed at 41 1/2 cents for futures and 45 1/2 cents for spot.

U.S. dollars had buyers at \$4.89, Sterling at \$4.45, and Australian pounds at \$12.52.

Three of four Chinese ex-Servicemen who appeared before Mr. Sainsbury yesterday, charged with illegal begging for charity, were ordered expelled from the Colony. The fourth, who has lived in the Colony since 1934, was cautioned.

## ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

Peninsula Hotel arrivals: Mrs. Duai Macrae, A. B. de Louit, H. W. Ching, T. Deban, G. Rogers, H. F. Lin, F. Y. Yeh, John Villin, Mr. and Mrs. G. Alby, Mr. and Mrs. Dunkley, Mrs. Julia Chiu, R. J. Mitchell, Winston Huxton, Miss M. Vasileva and Louis Hall.

Peninsula departures: Mr. and Mrs. M. P. Pepper, Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Rowe, Mr. and Mrs. W. Robertson, Miss J. M. Sanders, Mr. and Mrs. James Hay, Lt. Donald Hay, A. J. O'Brien, Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Lee, Miss G. Green, Mrs. R. W. Hunter, W. H. Hunter and Rev. E. W. Harts.

## SUGAR RATION

It is officially announced that the sugar ration for April is 2 lbs per person.

## POLICE NOTICE

Police Arrangements for the arrival of S.S. "STRATHMORE" on April 1, 1947, at about 8 a.m.

1. On the arrival of S.S. "Strathmore" on April 1, 1947, the following roads will be temporarily closed to traffic during the landing of passengers.

(1) Connaught Road from Thomas Cooks Building to junction of Jackson Road, North corner of Hong Kong Club.

(2) Wardley Street from Queen Victoria Statue to Connaught Road.

(3) Only vehicles issued with white cards bearing a number will be allowed to enter and park East and West of Queen's Pier.

(4) Lorries for transporting passengers, and luggage will park East of Queen's Pier on Connaught Road facing East.

(5) Private cars will park on West side of Queen's Pier facing East.

Persons Meeting Relatives

2. Persons wishing to meet relatives and friends will be allowed to proceed beyond the barriers on foot, but are requested not to crowd or block the main entrance of Queen's Pier.

3. Only coolies employed by recognised travel agencies will be allowed beyond the barriers.

COMMISSIONER OF POLICE.  
Hong Kong, 29th March, 1947.

## NOTICE

A considerable number of books from both public and private collections are reported to have found their way during the Japanese Occupation to the Imperial Library, Tokyo.

2. No claims of valuable books which were suspected of having been looted by the Japanese and conveyed to Japan were received by the Reparations Claims Office in the return of looted property called for early in January this year.

3. As there is a possibility of recovering some of the looted books from this source, the public are advised to forward lists of books lost to the Reparations Claims Office, G. P. O. Building. Any distinguishing markings should be reported if known and lists should be sent in before 30th April, 1947. A consolidated claim will then be sent by the Hong Kong Government to the authorities in Japan.

D. M. MACDOUGALL,  
Colonial Secretary.

Hong Kong, 20th March, 1947.

Chinese Optical Co.  
OPTICIAN  
67 QUEEN'S ROAD C

## The Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China

### BALANCE SHEET, 31st DECEMBER, 1946.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Capital, Stock, Authorised and Issued (There is under the Charter a reserve liability of the Stockholders equal to the amount of Stock Issued).	3,000,000 0 0	Cash in Hand and at Bankers	10,723,243 0 0
Reserve Fund	3,000,000 0 0	Government and Other Securities	56,135,009 0 8
Notes in Circulation	2,432,748 5 7	Hongkong Government Certificates of Indebtedness for Surrendered Coin and Cash Lodged against Note Issue	41,000,206 18 9
Current and Other Accounts, including provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts, and Contingencies and Exchange Adjustments	60,035,721 15 10	Securities Lodged against Note Issue	913,540 8 0
Fixed Deposits	7,644,020 1 3	Allahabad Bank Ltd.—37,548 Ordinary Shares of Rs. 100 each, of which 14,005 are fully paid and 22,983 are paid up to the extent of Rs. 60 per share, at cost	747,705 1 10
Bills Payable	1,721,540 10 7	Advances to Customers and Other Accounts	3,130,334 10 3
Acceptances, including Undertakings to accept, on Account of Customers	2,961,311 18 5	Liability of Customers for Acceptances, including Undertakings to accept, on Account of Bank Premises and Furniture at the Head Office and Branches.	29,500,760 18 0
Loans Payable	673,000 0 0	Balance of Remittances, Drafts, etc., in Transit between Head Office, Branches and Agencies.	1,785,010 7 3
Profit and Loss Account	704,518 5 4		
	£118,174,870 0 0		£118,174,870 0 0

W. R. COCKBURN, Chief Manager.  
R. W. BUCKLEY, Manager.  
G. H. TANKARD, Chief Accountant.

V. A. GRANTHAM  
H. MACNAGHTEN Directors.  
J. L. MILNE

## HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE CO., LTD.

### HONGKONG

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Ordinary Yearly Meeting of Shareholders will be held at the Hongkong Hotel, Hong Kong, on Thursday, 24th April, 1947 at 11.30 a.m. for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the period 1st September 1945 to 31st December 1946 and for the election of Directors and appointment of Auditors.

AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Register and Transfer Books of the Company will be CLOSED from the 10th to 24th April, 1947, both days inclusive, during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON  
General Managers.  
Hong Kong, 31st March, 1947.

## HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION

The Dividend for the year ending 31st December, 1946, at the rate of Three Pounds Sterling at exchange 1/2.27/32 is payable on and after the 28th March, 1947, at the Offices of the Corporation, where shareholders are requested to apply for Warrants.

A. MORSE,  
Chief Manager.  
Hong Kong, 28th March, 1947.

## WATSONIAN CLUB

It has been suggested that Watsonians might hold their first post-war dinner in the near future—a tentative date being Friday 11th April, 1947.

It is not known exactly how many Watsonians there are in the Colony so that it would be appreciated first of all if they would communicate with me so that arrangements can be made to bring about this reunion of Hong Kong Watsonians.

J. A. R. SELBY,  
Secretary.  
Tel: 39519.

## EQUINE SPORTS CLUB

A General Meeting will be held at the Sports Club (by courtesy) on Wednesday, April 9, 1947, at 5.45 p.m. to discuss plans to reactivate the Club's functions. All members are urged to attend.

D. M. Hykes  
Honorary Secretary

## UNITED SERVICES RECREATION CLUB

KING'S PARK, KOWLOON.

The above Club is now being reorganised and will be opened again early in May.

Any previous subscribers who wish to resume their membership of the Club are therefore requested to notify the Honorary Secretary, Mr. W. G. Hunter, Hong Kong, by writing to the Club Office at the above address.

## THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD.

### NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS

#### PROPOSED ISSUE OF NEW SHARES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT it is the present intention of the Board of Directors of the above Company in accordance with the terms of the Special Resolution passed on the 26th day of May, 1923, to offer as soon as possible after the 21st day of April, 1947, 100,000 new shares of the nominal value of \$25.00 each being the present unissued capital of the Company (in the proportion of one new share for every complete number of three shares held by them respectively) to the persons who on the 21st day of April, 1947, are registered in the Company's share register as the holders of the 300,000 issued shares in the capital of the Company at a premium of \$25.00 per share and so that on the acceptance of the offer the nominal amount due in respect of each such new share plus the said premium of \$25.00 per share (making \$50.00 per share) shall be payable in full.

The offer will be made by Notice sent by post to each shareholder specifying the number of shares to which the shareholder is entitled and limiting the time within which the offer if not accepted either on behalf of such shareholder or his nominee will be deemed to be declined.

Notice is hereby given that the twentieth Ordinary Yearly Meeting of the Shareholders of the Company will be held at the Offices of the General Managers, Mezzanine Floor, Windsor House, on Tuesday, 15th April 1947 at 11.30 a.m. for the purpose of confirming the appointment of the Board of Directors and receiving their Report and Statements of Accounts for the year ending 31st July 1947, and for the periods 1st August, 1941 to 31st December, 1941 and 1st October, 1945 to 31st July, 1946 and to re-elect Directors and Auditors.

By Order of the Board of Directors.  
B. C. FIELD,  
Secretary.

Hong Kong, 26th March, 1947.

## THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD.

### NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

that the FIFTY-FIFTH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in this Company will be held at the Offices of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. Ltd., on MONDAY, 21st April, 1947, at NOON for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1946.

The REGISTER OF SHARES of the Company will be closed from TUESDAY, 8th April, 1947, to MONDAY, 21st April, 1947, both days inclusive, during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,  
B. C. FIELD,  
Secretary.

Hong Kong, 26th March, 1947.

## THE HONGKONG & CANTON ICE MANUFACTURING CO., LTD.

### NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS

Notice is hereby given that the twentieth Ordinary Yearly Meeting of the Shareholders of the Company will be held at the Offices of the General Managers, Mezzanine Floor, Windsor House, on Tuesday, 15th April 1947 at 11.30 a.m. for the purpose of confirming the appointment of the Board of Directors and receiving their Report and Statements of Accounts for the year ending 31st July 1947, and for the periods 1st August, 1941 to 31st December, 1941 and 1st October, 1945 to 31st July, 1946 and to re-elect Directors and Auditors.

By Order of the Board of Directors.  
J. D. THOMSON,  
Secretary.

Hong Kong, 31st March, 1947.

## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

It is hereby notified that the following Sale of Crown Land by Public Auction will be held at the Offices of the Public Works Department on Monday, the 14th day of April, 1947, at 3 p.m.

Sale Conditions may be obtained and sale plan inspected at the Office of the Superintendent of Crown Lands and Surveys, Lower Albert Road.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT

No. of Sale

Registry No.

Location

Boundaries

Area in sq. ft.

Annual Rental

Unit Price

1

Inland Lot No. 4891.

Junction of Queen's Road Central and Des Voeux Road Central.

As per sale plan (Area shaded in red).

14,800 (about)

\$0.550

\$2,076.000

Immediately after the fall of the hammer, the purchaser shall according to the Conditions of Sale pay to the Auctioneer a sum of \$500,000.00 by cheque, which shall be certified by the Bank on which it is drawn. The Bank must be a member of the Exchange Banks Association.

V. KENNIFP  
Director of Public Works.

Hong Kong, 31st March, 1947.

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

20 WORDS \$4 FOR ONE INSERTION PREPAID. \$1 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL INSERTION. ADDITIONAL WORDS 10 CTS. PER WORD PER INSERTION

\$2

Replies are awaiting at our offices for Box Nos. 221, 222, 229, 231, 240, 255, 260, 273, 274, 278.

## FOR SALE

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Telephones: 24354  
Editors: 24354  
Reporters & General Office 32812  
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Subscription Rates:  
3 months ..... H.K.\$18.00  
6 months ..... H.K.\$33.00  
One year ..... H.K.\$72.00

## GERMAN PLIGHT

Three weeks of discussion at Moscow have brought the Foreign Ministers no nearer a solution of the problem of Germany's future than they were at the beginning. Meanwhile, increasing restlessness in the British Zone have led to open demonstrations and while they have been conducted without violence, there is no guarantee that the unrest will stop at hunger marches. There can, of course, be no remedy for Germany's ills until the unfortunate decisions reached on a diplomatic level at Potsdam have been removed in harmony with the realities of the German situation. It was not, of course, the conception of the Western Powers that Germany should be politically partitioned. They acquiesced in her being divided into zones for military occupation only. They were ready to let Russia have for this a lion's share of the German map, including such Western-minded regions as Thuringia and Saxony; and they consented still further to contract their own zones in order to provide a zone for France. But, economically and politically, Germany was to remain a single unit. As soon as practicable, a central German Government was to be set up. Meanwhile the occupying Powers were to regulate the country jointly, through a joint Control Council in Berlin. To do Russia justice she never pretended attachment to the idea of a condominium like this. She accepted it because the Western Powers insisted, but her own preference was for spheres of interest. And without delay she started converting her own zone into one. Politically she followed her usual technique of organising a strong Communist Party to be her agent. Economically she treated East Germany as if it was West Russia. Its surplus grain, which had been the regular source of bread-supply for the industrialised Germans in what is now the British zone, went to feed Russians instead. She enforced against the Western Allies every part of the Potsdam policy which favoured her. Every part which favoured them she ignored. It is easy to blame her, but was a condominium ever practicable? Our eyes having gradually been opened, it is now Britain and America which want to have a free hand in their zones, and Russia which is harking back to the assertion of Germany's political unity. For the Party which she has built up in her own zone she reckons that, given a unified Germany, she could use it to capture the country as a whole. That would carry her banners to the Rhine, and give her the mastery of Europe. Had the British and Americans managed their zones as they ought, there should have been no such risk. Western occupation started by being much more popular than Russian occupation, and it ought to have remained so. Why has it not, or why at any rate has not our own? There are many contributory explanations, but the main one is food. When the already low allowance of calories in the British zone dropped suddenly and remorselessly to a semi-starvation figure much below that in the other two chief zones, the bottom fell out of our prestige. The population was already tried to the utmost by lack of homes, clothes, fuel, cleansing and the barest comforts. Sheer daily hunger is the last straw. The actual reason why this occurred was first the withholding of the East German grain and then the non-arrival of American food ships, due mainly to the strikes in the United States. Great Britain strove to lessen the blow, drawing heavily on her island's own meagre reserves and imposing bread-rations upon her own people. But the Germans neither saw that, nor believed it. Most of them regarded the famine as evidence of a deliberate British desire to weaken and decimate their nation. The alternative was to deny us for our incompetence. These are still the verdicts, probably, of a majority of the dwellers in the British zone; and until we live them down we cannot hope to win sympathy. What, then, are we doing about it? In the main the right things. First, by the economic merger of the British and American zones we have laid the found-

## WHITE AUSTRALIA FEELS OUT IN THE COLD

Canberra, Mar. 30. White Australia today is feeling lonely in an Asia world that no longer belongs to Europe. That sums up why her Foreign Minister, Dr. Herbert V. Evatt, is so anxious India shall remain in the British Commonwealth of Nations on the same independent footing as the other Dominions.

Australia once believed without reservations that she belonged wholly to Europe. Today she is recognising rather forlornly that geographically at least she belongs to Asia.

Her forlorn outlook comes of isolation from Europe in the sea of rising nationalism amongst nations formerly under European direction.

That is why Australia is looking to India, promising aid to India in the development of its secondary industries and hoping in return for friendship and understanding. She has to live in years to come with other nations of the East—not with Europeans.

While on one hand she has to weigh her traditional friendships and comradeship in war with the Dutch, on the other hand she realises that the Dutch may not be in the Netherlands East Indies for ever, and that these teeming millions of native populations will mould the feelings of these islands, so wealthy and populous, towards their southern neighbours.

These are thoughts at the back of Dr. Evatt's mind in his approach to India and other Asiatic countries.

As regards India, just about to obtain its complete independence of Great Britain, the link of membership of the British Commonwealth would in his view provide a stabilising bond between the two countries.

Their economies are almost complementary. There is no need for clashes there. Australia wants what India can supply. Australia's expanded industry can give India what she wants. Australian technicians and industrial experiences can be used in building up Indian resources.

Friendship with India would permit Australia to face her future with the knowledge that she has in the area a co-partner with herself and New Zealand whose voice could not be ignored.

Dr. Evatt is working for official government to government talks with India. He gave notice of this desire in his recent speech on International Affairs in the Australian Parliament.

Significantly, Jawaharlal Nehru, head of India's interim government, praised the speech, and Dr. Evatt is constantly in touch in Canberra with Sir Raghunath Paranjpye, the Indian High Commissioner.

At this stage of the proceedings there is an unofficial flavour about the negotiations. But presently, though quietly, negotiations are going on, always with the hope in the

## By ALAN REID

mind of Australian officials that India will recognise the membership of the British Commonwealth of Nations give benefits otherwise denied.

The "White Australia" policy is recognised by Australians as the stumbling block in the way of achieving complete harmony with India.

Possibly it is a feature of the Australian political setup that is known to the ordinary Indian, and Doctor Evatt's recent declaration that Australia was pledged completely to the policy probably does not help.

But the Foreign Minister believes that even the hostility engendered by incorporating the policy as a permanent feature of Australian life, can be overcome.

Illustrative of the reaction of the Indian to the full explanation of the implications of the policy was the attitude of a well known Indian newspaper editor during a recent visit to Australia. He arrived in Australia bitterly hostile to the policy and denouncing it as a racial insult.

Then he learned that the words "White Australia" were not mentioned in any legislation and did not appear in any statute.

It was economic in basis, designed to protect Australian workers against the competition of cheap labour, not organised against unfair exploitation and with the tradition of co-operative resistance to exploitation as possessed by Australian workers.

## BARCLAY ON BRIDGE

By Shepard Barclay

"The Authority on Authorities"

## WATCH ALL DISCARDS

Regardless of whether you are the declarer or a defender, an important phase of good card playing consists of watching all discards and making the logical inferences from them. At either a suit or No Trump contract, if a long suit is being run by someone, on which you will have to discard, the discards of another player frequently form the sole guide for your own action. When you are a defender, your partner's lowest card from a particular suit usually tells you he is relinquishing protection there and wants you to retain yours, as he is guarding against some other suit or suits.

S. A. K. 7 5  
H. 10 4 2  
D. 10  
C. J. 10 8 3

S. Q. 6 3 N. S. J. 8 2  
H. Q. J. 9 5 H. K. 8 7  
D. K. 9 6 5 W. E. D. A. Q  
C. 9 7 S. C. 6 5 2

S. 10 9 4  
H. A. 8 3  
D. J. 8 4 3  
C. A. K. 4

(Dealer: South. Neither side vulnerable.)  
South West North East  
Pass Pass 1 C Pass  
1 D Pass 1 S Pass  
2 NT Pass 3 NT Pass  
Odd bidding, with North starting it. Most players would

defend for food security. The Americans have driven a hard bargain; but the gain is real. Secondly, we have taken a stand at Moscow, supported by General Marshall, which should insure Russian approval, will make things generally much easier throughout Germany. But time is of the essence if the country's deterioration is to be checked and Gen. Marshall's efforts to pin the Russians down to action will undoubtedly be given Mr. Truman's warmest support.

open South's hand, with either 1-Diamond or a short club bid, preferably the former. But the natural contract resulted anyway.

West led his heart Q. South ducking. The 5 to the K won the second trick and South then was in with his A. He saw the danger of getting set two or more if he ducked a spade trick or tried to set up the suit in the first three rounds, as either of those plans might cause the loss of four tricks in diamonds. So, playing safely for one down and hardly thinking of game any more, except through some defense mistake, he ran his five club tricks.

On the third club West tossed his spade 3, in order to keep his four diamonds and heart 7, but East wasn't looking. So on the fourth club East tossed the spade 2. Hoping that indicated the very kind of carelessness it did, South took his two top spades and was overjoyed to see both defenders follow. Two more spades then gave him contract plus an extra trick.

If East had noted that West's spade 3 was his lowest possible, East should have held his spades and tossed diamonds on the last two clubs. That would have made it impossible for South to take more than eight tricks.

## Tomorrow's Problem

S. A. 10 8  
H. A. K. 8 6  
D. A. 8 7 4 2  
C. Q

S. 6 H. J. 10 N. S. K. Q. 9  
5 4 3 W. E. H. None  
D. J. 8 7 6 D. K. Q. 10  
C. A. 6 5 S. 9 8 5 3  
4 3 2 C. 10

S. J. 7 4 2  
H. Q. 9 7 2  
D. None  
C. K. J. 9 8 7

(Dealer: North. Neither side vulnerable.)  
If North starts with 1-Heart instead of 1-Diamond, what should be the rest of the bidding?

## CARNIVAL

By Dick Turner



## Macao Today Is An Expensive Hobby

Macao today is an expensive place from a visitor's point of view. Unlike Hong Kong there is now no acute accommodation problem, yet hotel prices are abnormal and higher than the European run hotels in Hong Kong which cater for a more varied clientele. Prices in Macao range upwards of 24 dollars a night for a single room, not including any meals or surcharge.

The first impression gained by any stranger arriving in Macao

from Hong Kong is concerned with the absence of vehicles, rickshaws and hawkers. It is a pleasure to ride through the streets of Macao after Hong Kong. Unlike the situation in our own Colony the people of Macao find no difficulty in walking on the pavements because no cabbies and hawkers stand bar their way. These exist in Macao only in small numbers and vendors are given to understand by the authorities that they must use the minimum space possible. European food, just as plentiful in Macao as here, is sold in its two main restaurants at charges which compare favourably with Hong Kong. However, which is in short supply in Macao, has bred a flourishing black market and an equally flourishing smuggling racket. Cinema rates are a little higher

than in Hong Kong but the film-goer there has more variety in the films shown. They are screened only one or two nights in succession.

## Quiet Reigns

A peaceful atmosphere pervades over the 200,000 population of Macao which is made up of 80 per cent Chinese. Under a competent Portuguese administration which revolves round a "no nonsense or interference basis," the Chinese element can only be described as "subdued" when compared with Hong Kong.

Extreme courtesy among the Chinese lower class and workers towards the Macanese population is a refreshing change when one recalls the attitude towards the European section here of a large portion of the Chinese working class, among whom can be included many Chinese who daily use the Hong Kong cross harbour ferries complete with a great deal of "vigour and unnecessary physical violence."

Nightlife in Macao revolves round the winchop cafes and gambling establishments which are sanctioned by the authorities. Social evening life as it exists in Hong Kong has no medium in Macao. With the return of the warm weather the mosquito pest is already present in quantity in Macao where it is now necessary to sleep with the protection of netting. The D. D. T. spraying which is carried out periodically by the R.A.F. in Hong Kong and Kowloon cannot be reproduced by the Macanese because of the lack of aircraft.

## Police Policy

Interpreting, in the fact that Macao is a child pickpocket land, has been turned to a useful purpose by the police authorities. These children are taken off the street and allowed to live in the main police station compound where they help to work in the gardens and do light constructive jobs. In return they are fed from the vegetable and fruit produce which is grown in the police gardens.

Also living in this compound, which has been made as picturesque and neat as any section of a municipal park in England, by Macao police in their leisure hours, are 120 orphans. They are the small sons and daughters of Macao mothers who died during the war. Free food is also provided for them, mainly from the station grounds as well as clothing which is allotted through a Government grant. Three Catholic women teachers instruct them in daily lessons in a series of small huts erected behind the Police headquarters.

be an alliance with the Monarchists in order to create a stronger and broader front. Other Republicans deplore relationship with the Monarchists and contend that the monarchy must be kept out at all costs.

At yet, there is no trend that would mark the progress of the varied factions. However, the monarchists inside Spain have been increasingly active since the first of the year. Republican quarters claim they have made more headway than the Republicans. Nevertheless, they have not reached an agreement with Franco.

Until Franco has been convinced that a certain change is in order, a change is not regarded as desirable. Unless an anti-Franco tactical attempt is made, the faction must maintain its position. The faction must maintain its position. The faction must maintain its position.

## Franco Marks Time In Spain

Madrid, Mar. 30.

Informed political quarters said today that any Spanish political developments are likely to be delayed until the effects of the Moscow conference of foreign ministers have been analyzed by Franco and his Cabinet ministers.

They predict that any anti-Franco statements arising from the conference will be seized on by Franco's propagandists as material for a new campaign reiterating charges of foreign interference in Spanish changes.

If the Big Four ministers ignore Spain, Franco will continue quietly to administer his nation's affairs without affecting any noticeable change.

Political quarters said that Franco has been contemplating a cabinet shuffle since the first of the year. They expected it to occur by the end of February. Since nothing has happened yet, they presume that Franco will postpone action in order to obviate any possible interpretation that he is being influenced by "Big Four" decisions.

It was recalled that a similar shakeup was predicted a year ago. Nothing happened.

There are two spheres of Spanish political activities. One involves the day to day livelihood of the Franco regime. The other involves the scattered forces which are seeking a basic change which would mean the substitution of a new regime for the Franco government.

The first sphere revolves about such developments as cabinet changes and the application of new policies. They are designed to improve Spain's

international and domestic position without affecting the central administration, the military dictatorship. They are watched closely, though, to see if they signify a new orientation or a trend toward evolution.

The second sphere embraces the complexity of factions inside and outside Spain, working for the removal of the Franco government in favour of something else. That "something else" is the factor which has kept the anti-Franco factions generally disunited.

The two principal groups are the Monarchists and Republicans. A third important group favours a provisional or "caretaker" administration until a legal institution may be chosen through a plebiscite.

There is considerable interplay. The main faction of Monarchists is that favouring the restoration of the throne with Pretender Don Juan III. Another branch of Monarchists are advocating the restoration of the Carlist line. Some Monarchists favour a constitutional monarchy, while others are backing an absolute monarchy.

The Republicans are equally divided. The exile Republicans have three separate groups jockeying for position—the so-called "government-in-exile," the "Negro Socialists" and the "Prieto Socialists." In addition to them, there are the Republican factions within Spain, who advocate the re-establishment of a republic without the participation of exile Republicans. Some of the Socialist, Republican and other factions claim that there should



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THE MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE.Badges admitting non-members to the Members' Enclosure and  
Club Rooms at \$10 each day including tax are obtainable through  
the Secretary on the written or personal introduction of a Member,  
such Member to be responsible for all chits, etc.Badges admitting to Members' Enclosure, will NOT be on sale  
at the RACE COURSE.The Treasurers' Comptroller Office will close each day at 11  
a.m. and the Secretary's Office at 11.45 a.m. Both Offices at 1st  
floor, Exchange Building.A limited number of tiffins will be obtainable at the Club  
House, provided they are ordered in advance from the No. 1 Boy  
(Tel. 27818).NO CHILDREN WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE CLUB'S  
PREMISES DURING THE MEETING.**PUBLIC ENCLOSURE.**The price of admission to the Public Enclosure is \$3 each day  
including tax for all persons including ladies, and is payable at the  
Gate.Bookmakers, Tipsters, etc., will not be permitted to operate  
within the precincts of The Hong Kong Jockey Club during the  
Race Meeting.Refreshments will be obtainable in the Restaurant in the Public  
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# ECONOMIC SURVEY ATTACKED

## FBI Demand For Increase In 1947 Coal Target To 220 Million Tons

### Direct Taxation And Incentive

London, Mar. 30.

An attack on the British Government's economic  
survey for 1947 and a demand that the British  
coal target for the current year should be  
increased to 220,000,000 tons are contained in  
a statement issued here by the Federation of  
British Industries.The statement, which is called an interim one,  
says that the proposals in the Government's  
economic survey for this year do not go far  
enough and that "no opportunity should be  
lost of getting rid of any one of the controls."Dealing with the coal problem, the  
Federation says that the target of 200,000,000 tons, as sug-  
gested by Government is insuffi-  
cient to support high industrial  
activity, essential for export and  
other needs.The statement also calls for a  
reduction in direct taxation, im-  
portation of 10,000,000 tons of  
coal and the mobilisation of re-  
sources for building power sta-  
tions and suggests that priority  
be given to steel for exports and  
capital equipment.Some of the salient points in  
the statement are:  
1. The question of importation  
of power station equipment from  
Germany should be examined and  
if necessary German specialist  
labour brought to Britain to erect  
the plant.**Taxation Reduction**  
2. Balance must be reached  
between supply and demand for  
steel. After increasing supply to  
the maximum, the method of se-  
curing the balance should be by  
reducing amounts allocated to less  
essential needs.3. Building and repair of lo-  
comotives and wagons and reno-  
vation of permanent way should be  
maintained at maximum activity.  
4. Incentive should be increas-  
ed to all grades by reduction in  
direct taxation. Discriminating  
use should be made of indirect  
taxation, however, to counter-  
balance the inflationary effects of  
the reduction of direct taxation.**More Crises?**  
5. The present policy of pro-  
gressively reducing the rate of

## Obey The Voice Of Reason

Paris, Mar. 30.

M. Paul Ramadier, the Prime  
Minister, declared yesterday  
that France would have to ex-  
port all her textiles if she was  
to pay for the wheat that she  
must import this year."Cultivation of wheat is de-  
creasing even in good years," he  
said. "We have to import eight  
million quintals to ten million  
quintals of wheat in a bad year.  
This year, after sharp winter  
frosts we must import 30 mil-  
lion quintals. That means all our  
textiles will have to be ex-  
ported to pay for wheat.""You must accept every sacri-  
fice and obey the voice of reason  
if we are not to be engulfed in  
an economic tornado."—Reuter.

Moscow, Mar. 30.

The Soviet Ministry of  
Merchant Shipping has approved  
a plan to develop Russian  
merchant shipping this year.  
The Black Sea and Baltic ports  
and a number of important  
shipyards are to be restored  
and developed and larger  
freight tonnage handled.—Reu-  
ter.**Government Rations**

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## Anglo-Soviet Treaty Talks

Moscow, Mar. 31.

Outside the Confer-  
ence of Foreign Minis-  
ters proper, Anglo-  
Soviet treaty revision  
negotiations are definite-  
ly underway. British  
opinion here is still  
optimistic that the nego-  
tiations may be complet-  
ed before the end of the  
Conference session, al-  
though it is too nearly  
in the talks to predict  
this with any certainty.The wide circulation given by  
United States press reports to  
the rumour that during the re-  
cent Stalin-Bevin talks, the  
Generalissimo offered economic  
aid to Britain is officially dis-  
missed here. It can be cate-  
gorically stated that aid was  
neither asked nor offered.It is no secret that Mr.  
Bevin has always been a firm  
believer in the resumption of  
British trade with Russia, as  
with all other nations. Britain's  
urgent timber requirements for  
reconstruction offer one ob-  
vious market if the Russians  
own building programme leaves  
any surplus available. Also,  
prospects of a good Soviet  
wheat harvest open the possi-  
bility for the resumption of  
traditional British grain pur-  
chases during the coming years.While it is possible that Gen-  
eralissimo Stalin and Mr. Bevin  
touched on these trade topics,  
it should be clearly stated that  
trade and not aid was the ques-  
tion under discussion.—Reuter.

## TURKEY KEY TO "HALT COMMUNISM" MOVES

Washington, Mar. 31.

Secret testimony that Turkey—even more than  
Greece—is the key to any move to halt the  
spread of Communism in the Mediterranean  
is before the Senate Foreign Relations Com-  
mittee.Administration officials said  
there is an apparent lack of  
enthusiasm for the Turkish  
phase among some supporters  
of President Harry S. Truman's  
programme.Testimony was given behind  
closed doors last week by  
Edwin C. Wilson, United States  
Ambassador to Turkey.The Committee expects to  
make most of it public later.  
A source who asked that his  
name be withheld quoted Wil-  
son as saying Turkey remains  
the last strong government on  
the Mediterranean standing up  
against Russia.If Turkey tumbles, Wilson  
was quoted as saying, then  
Iran, Iraq, Albania and other  
nations would have to bow to  
Communist demands, throwing  
the Middle East wide open to  
Russia.**Strong Front**The Ambassador added that  
Turkey at present has a strong  
front but cannot long remain  
so if it is forced to fight the  
bill alone for maintaining a  
large standing army which  
drains not only its finances but  
its manpower.Some US\$150,000,000 of the  
\$400,000,000 asked by Mr. Tru-  
man would go to Turkey—for  
military purposes.Wilson was quoted as saying  
that the Russians by keeping  
troops on the Turkish border  
have made it necessary for  
Turkey to maintain large mili-  
tary forces.The Soviets also have been  
demanding a share in control  
of the Dardanelles which is un-  
der Turkish sovereignty.—Asso-  
ciated Press.**THE PEN SURE IS MIGHTIER**

Manila, Mar. 31.

A fountain pen-revolver fell  
from the pocket of Apolinario  
Delpoz, second engineer of the  
F.B. 200 as he bent over to lace  
his shoes.The unlicensed weapon ex-  
ploded on impact and sent a  
32-calibre bullet through the  
owner's throat, killing him in-  
stantly.—Associated Press.**TORY HOPES**

London, Mar. 30.

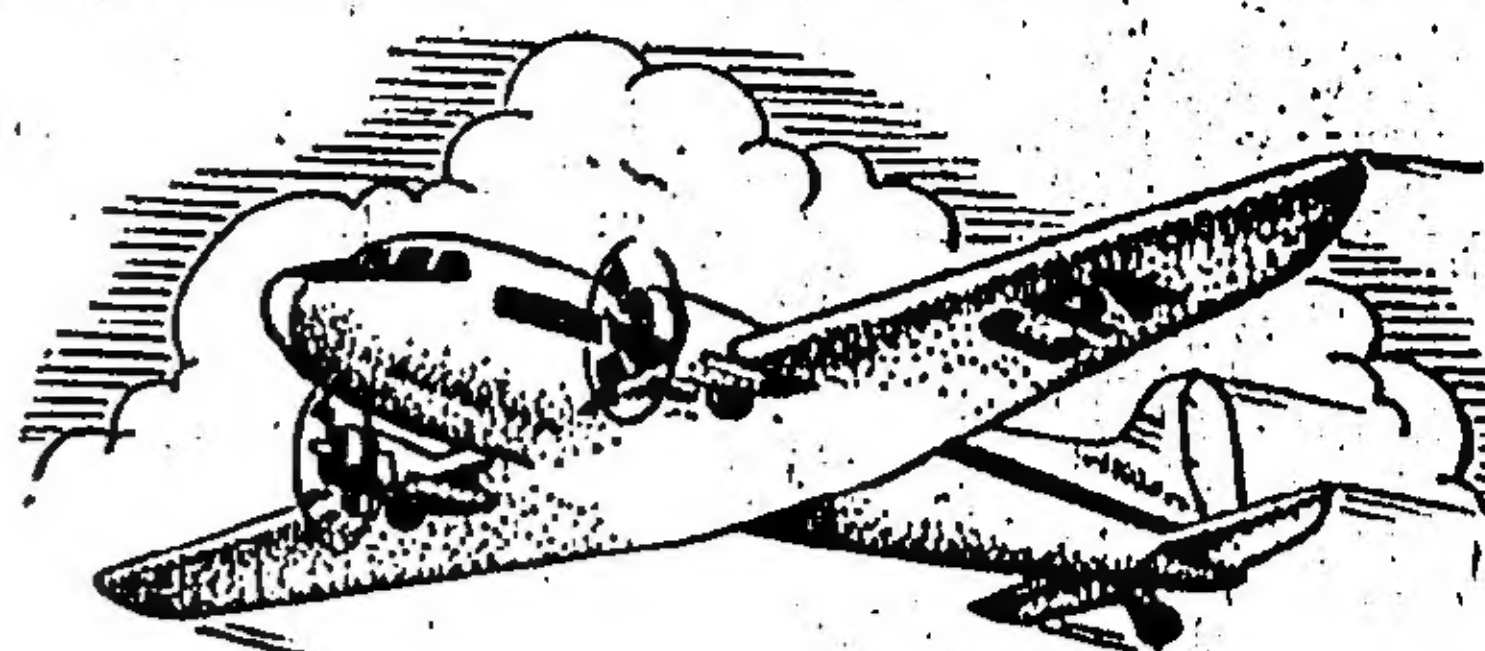
Yesterday's results of over  
400 Urban and rural district  
council elections—the con-  
tests will be continued tomor-  
row and Tuesday—are so  
fragmentary that it is impos-  
sible to discern any trend.The struggle is mainly be-  
tween Labour and Conserva-  
tives. Conservative Headquar-  
ters said tonight: "The re-  
sults so far declared must be  
regarded as highly satisfac-  
tory. When the final details  
are available it is expected  
they will show a tremendous  
change in public opinion com-  
pared with last year." Last  
year's Labour successes were  
considerable all over the coun-  
try.—Reuter.

## War Dept. Purge Of Communists

Washington, Mar. 30.

War Department officials are  
carrying out a vigorous and  
systematic campaign of their  
own to oust Communists from  
Army ranks and the Depart-  
ment's civilian payroll.One official said the drive  
was hampered by lack of  
funds, but added, "We are do-  
ing the best we can."The programme, which was  
launched soon after the Army  
began demobilizing the World  
War force, requires an  
elaborate cross-check and re-  
view of every individual of  
questionable loyalty.In related developments; (1)  
the House Committee on Un-  
American Activities prepared  
to discuss a proposal to outlaw  
the United States Communist  
Party and declare instead  
"pitiless spotlight publicity on  
all Communists."(2) The White House said  
President Truman soon would  
ask Congress for funds to fin-  
ance the new loyalty pro-  
gramme, which is expected to  
cost up to US\$25,000,000.—  
United Press.

Moscow, Mar. 30.

The Soviet Ministry of  
Merchant Shipping has approved  
a plan to develop Russian  
merchant shipping this year.  
The Black Sea and Baltic ports  
and a number of important  
shipyards are to be restored  
and developed and larger  
freight tonnage handled.—Reu-  
ter.

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NEXT CHANGE

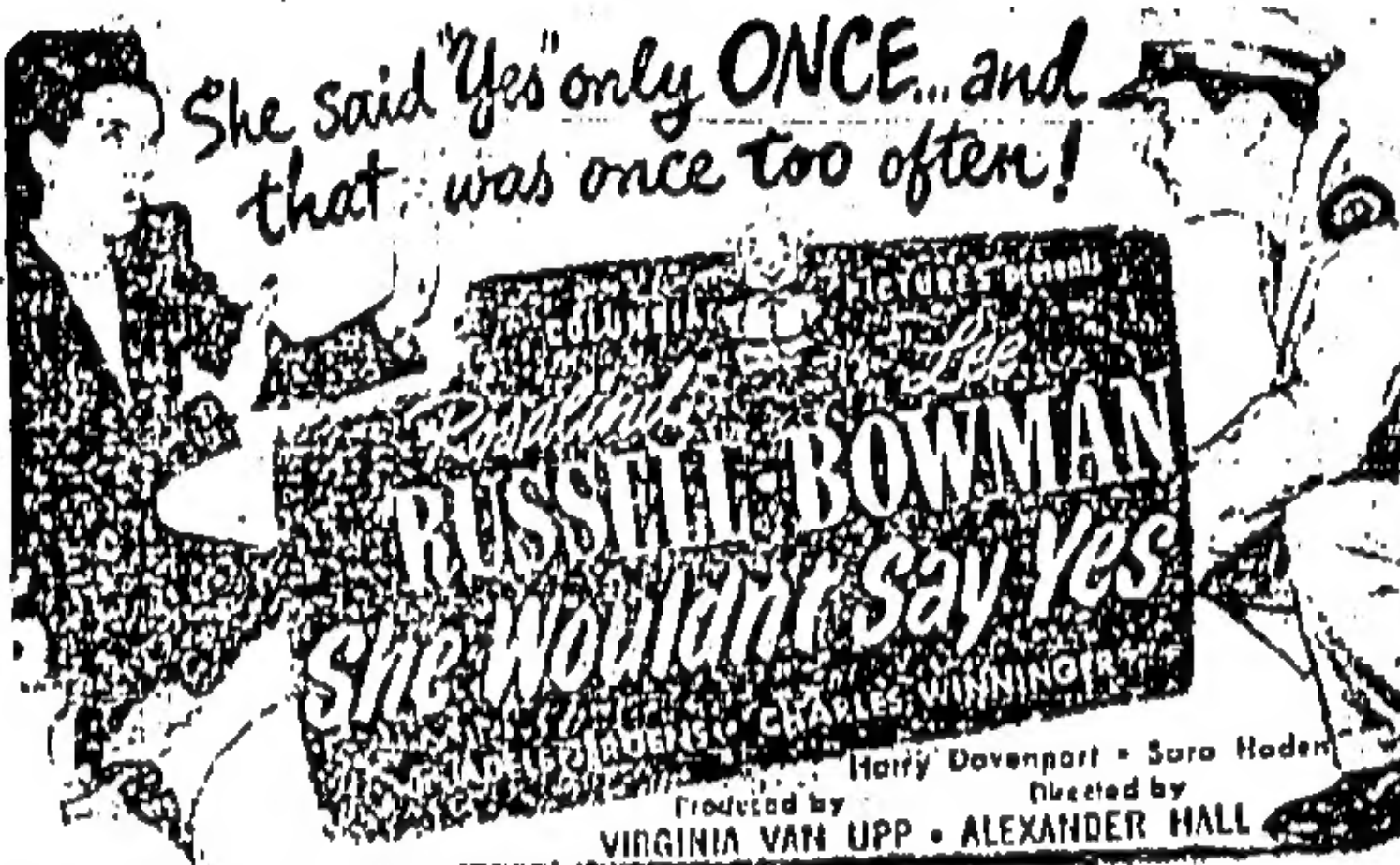
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## CATHAY

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A GRIPPING EXPOSE OF A MOST SINISTER SPY RING!  
'UNDER SECRET ORDERS'

WITH John LODER ★ Erich STROHEIM ★ Claire LUCE

NEXT CHANGE

LAURENCE HARDY & DANIELLE DARREY in 'A HAUNTING WE WILL GO'

# HITLER'S MEDICAL RECORD, BY HIMMLER'S DOCTOR

London, Mar. 30.  
Dr. Felix Kirsten, Finnish psychotherapist and Heinrich Himmler's wartime medical adviser, said today that Adolf Hitler's official medical history showed the Fuehrer was sexually impotent but derived sexual satisfaction from making speeches before big crowds.

Kirsten wrote in the "Sunday Express" that Himmler showed him Hitler's 26-page medical history during the war. Kirsten said categorically that Hitler was not homosexual.

He said Himmler told him Hitler's friendship with Eva Braun was "simply platonic." "Eva Braun, said Himmler, was a pathetic creature, sexually starved," Kirsten wrote. "Himmler also disclosed Hitler had an unreasoning hatred of horses. He wanted to have every horse he saw shot." Kirsten said the medical report showed that Hitler early in 1942 was diagnosed as suffering from progressive paralysis.

### Gold Coffin

"For months Hitler had been able to work, thanks to hypodermic injections given him daily; injections apparently of almost everything and anything save morphine, which he held in horror." Kirsten said Himmler in Rome in 1942 told him of plans to erect a tomb to hold Hitler's body after he died. Quoting Himmler, Kirsten said, "It will cost millions and will stand on the Koenigsplatz in Berlin, 400 yards by 1,600 yards, a vaulted collar will be the tomb, larger and more splendid than anything the Pharaohs ever conceived." "Hitler's body will rest in a gold coffin set with precious stones. There will be great halls which will house 200,000

to 300,000 people. There will be a Hall of Fame containing the busts of all Hitler's faithful collaborators." — United Press.

### GOLD SEIZED

Milan, Mar. 30.  
Italian customs officials at the Italo-Swiss frontier, post of Isello confiscated 38 kilograms of gold ingots from a car driven by a man holding a Swiss passport who tried to enter Italian territory. Some of the gold bars were hallmarked with the hammer and sickle and others with what was believed to be the Bank of England mark. They were under the upholstery of the car. — Reuter.

## MAJESTIC

SHOWING TO-DAY  
At 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 P.M.  
M-G-M'S SMASH-MUSICAL  
COMEDY HIT!  
RED SKELTON  
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in  
"SHIP AHOY"  
with  
BERT LAHR  
Virginia O'BRIEN  
NEXT CHANGE  
"THEIR IS THE GLORY"

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### MIRACULOUS OPERATION

Birmingham, Mar. 30.  
A young factory worker who had four fingers of his right hand cut off in a guillotine, has had a whole finger from his left hand grafted on to the right, making the hand useful again. The Mayor of Birmingham said tonight that the grafting operation was performed by a skillful surgeon at the Birmingham accident hospital and rehabilitation centre, which carries out pioneer research work. — Reuter.

## Mexico To Have Silver Coinage

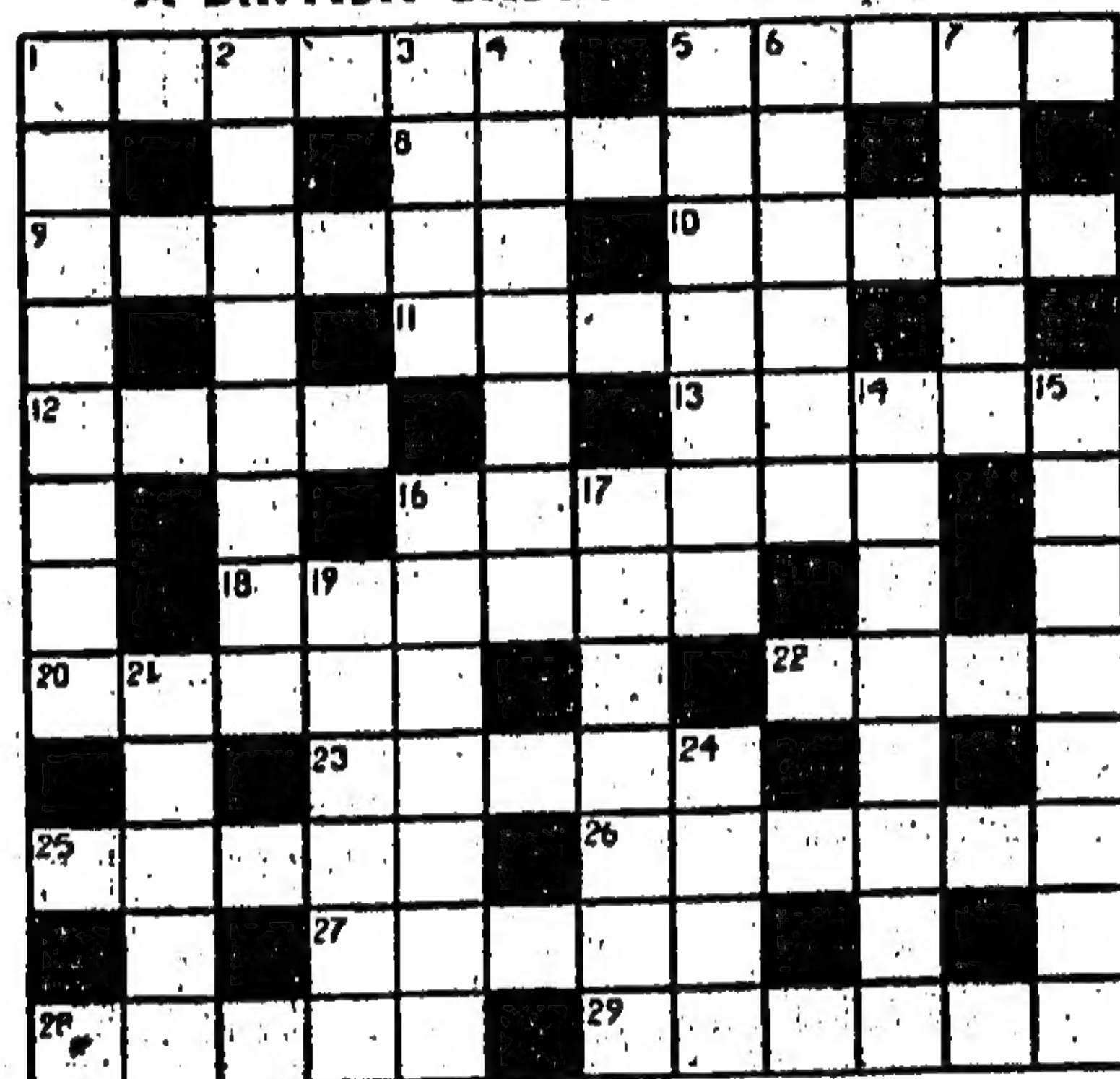
Mexico City, Mar. 30.  
Carlos Navon, director of the Bank of Mexico, said over 100,000,000 paper pesos will be withdrawn from circulation in Mexico and replaced by silver coins which, he said, would conserve 25,000,000 ounces of silver thus aiding the Mexican mining industry and improving the world silver price by diverting part of Mexican silver from industrial purposes.

He said it has not been decided what the total issue of the new peso and five peso coins will be since there is likely to be a large demand for savings and export purposes. Treasury officials said the new coins will be most valuable throughout the world judging by the relation of their real value to nominal value. The peso piece will contain 53 1/2 centavos worth of silver in contrast to the U.S. dollar which contains 50 cents worth of silver. The new five peso piece, whose exchange value will be about \$1.25, will contain 83 U.S. cents worth of silver. The silver dollar contains 22 grams of silver while the five peso piece will contain 30 grams. — United Press.

### Blondes Are Hairier

Chicago, Mar. 30.  
Blondes have more hairs on their heads than brunettes, redheads or brownettes, according to Samuel Grant, director of the Helene Curtis laboratories. He said some blondes have as many as 140,000 hairs on their skulls, brunettes and brownettes an average of 120,000 and red-heads only 90,000. On the average, he said, one square inch of scalp contains about 1,000 hairs. — United Press.

### A BRITISH CROSS WORD PUZZLE



### Clues Across

1. Nun.
5. Battle.
8. Small boat.
9. Dislike.
10. Loosen.
11. Utter suddenly.
12. Young female.
13. Church pews.
14. Small heurd.
18. Waistband.
20. Subject for discussion.
22. Engrave.
23. Boy's name.
25. Men's family.
26. Outsize men.
27. Scores.
28. Bury.
29. Legally closed.

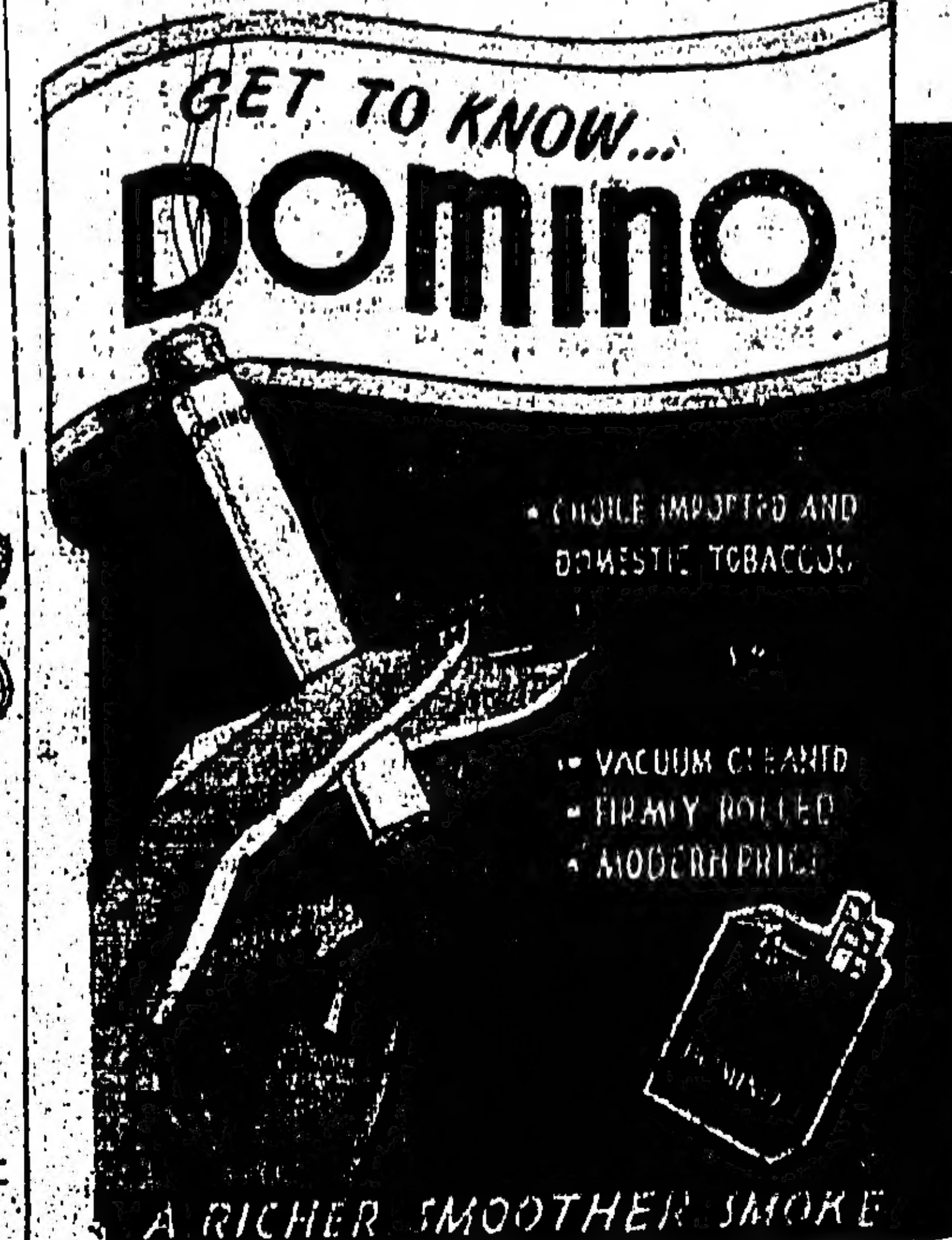
### Clues Down

1. Overbearing.
2. Drink.
3. Exercise.
4. Made a sort of.
5. Bravery.
6. Pulse made into soup.
7. Eddy.
14. Watchman.
15. Showed keenness.
16. Type of on skin.
17. Asser.
19. Lay upon.
21. Long-legged bird.
24. Get up.
25. Ornate.
26. Vole.
27. Nice.
28. System.
29. Tied.
4. Endure.
5. Cheered.
6. Restore.
7. Selfish.
10. Gaur.
13. Manikin.
14. Forsake.
16. Elusive.
17. Again.
19. Erols.
21. Drey.
22. Dart.
23. Beans.

### Yesterday's Crossword

ACROSS:—1. Remite; 5. Corks; 8. Inch; 9. Ragged; 11. Easel; 12. Induce; 14. Free; 16. Earls; 18. Atoll; 19. Edge; 20. Sordid; 24.

DOWN:—1. Rare; 2. Magt; 3. Tied; 4. Endure; 5. Cheered; 6. Restore; 7. Selfish; 10. Gaur; 13. Manikin; 14. Forsake; 16. Elusive; 17. Again; 19. Erols; 21. Drey; 22. Dart; 23. Beans.



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## HONG KONG'S TRADE PROSPECTS Chairman Of Chartered Bank On Future

### Moratorium Must Be Lifted

Until trade in all the major countries in the Far East again reaches pre-war dimensions, it is too much to expect that last year's Hong Kong trade figures can be maintained, said Mr. V. A. Grantham, chairman, at the annual meeting of shareholders of The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, held in London yesterday.

In the course of his statement, Mr. Grantham revealed an increase in current and other accounts during the year in excess of £22,840,000.

Profit for the year amounted to £378,632, but had accounts been made up as in the past, this profit figure would have been shown as £425,382, or an increase on last year of £99,618.

In his review of conditions in the countries in which the Bank's interests lie, the Chairman said:

India has enjoyed yet another year of almost unprecedented prosperity and economic progress. There has been great activity in the Share Markets and scarcely a week has passed without a number of new companies being floated. Indian Banking and Insurance interests, alive to the need for keeping pace with the new industries everywhere springing up and the extension of old industries, are participating to the full in the new business offering, as the figures in their recent Balance Sheet indicate of this phase of growth upon the road to that industrialisation which has been so frequently discussed and upon which the hopes of the various communities for an improvement in the general standards of living are based.

#### Facing Recession

But a number of factors appear to indicate that India now faces a recession from the high levels of prosperity touched during 1946, and time alone will prove the soundness of the new ventures. It is to be hoped that in this intense programme of industrialisation the overwhelming need for improvement in methods of agriculture, which is, after all, the life-blood of the country, will not be overlooked. Production in practically all industries, as a result mostly of recent political disorders, has fallen from wartime peaks, and in some cases is below even pre-war levels, while supplies in many cases have been insufficient to meet continued inordinate demand. India's food position also continues to give cause for uneasiness, for the rice crops of Madras, Bombay and the Central Provinces, are all reported to have suffered through excessive rainfall. Only in Bengal is the rice crop considered satisfactory. Wheat crops too, are likely to be less than normal on account of restricted sowings due to absence of timely rains. Large imports of both rice and wheat will be required, and although it is hoped that these will be forthcoming, reduced rations everywhere may prove to be inevitable during the next few months.

#### Ceylon

Of course, current events must be considered in the light of the Prime Minister's recent statement of policy. Certainly, the Indian side of our own business is based on a continuation of the goodwill of our customers, and, however much the Prime Minister's statement may be open to criticism, it should surely set at rest any lingering doubts and suspicions concerning Britain's good faith in the matter of the transference of power into responsible Indian hands.

In Ceylon, the year was a momentous one in the island's history, for in May last, the country was granted a new constitution and reached the threshold of Dominion Status. Last year's trade figures, which showed a 10 per cent increase of £118 million in the total value of exports, were a source of pride and satisfaction to the Ceylonese, and the fact that the country had reached this stage of development was a source of pride to the British.

circulation was no more than £2.8 millions higher. During the year under review, the Note Circulation and the "active" circulation fell by Rs. 59.6 millions and Rs. 44.8 millions respectively, whereas Bank deposits showed little final change at the end of the year. In this fashion, stability was maintained, but as the cost of living index rose slightly during the year, it is reasonable to draw the conclusion that Ceylon suffered from scarcity of most of the items included in the index figure.

#### Rubber Market

While, therefore, stability was maintained, a recession from the prosperous position enjoyed during the war period seems inevitable, and the doubts, to which I gave expression last year, regarding the ability of Ceylon to compete in the Rubber, Tea and Copra markets of the world, when these products were again subject to competition and supplies became augmented from areas which had been under Japanese occupation, appear to find confirmation, at least in so far as Rubber is concerned, in the action of the Ceylon Government, which after the British Government ceased buying at Rs. 1 per lb. in October last, has supported the local market on a basis above the world price. As Ceylon, now that Malaysia is again producing large quantities of rubber, is far from being the dominant factor among the world's rubber producers which she was during the War, this policy, while doubtless supportable as long as the demands for Ceylon's other products, such as tea, remain insistent, must carry its own consequences if and when these products again become subject to normal competition.

In Burma, much has been achieved since I addressed you last year, and exports of rice are again an important factor in the lives of the people in many adjacent countries, including India and Malaya. All that has been accomplished in this direction has been due to the efforts of the Burma Government working through the Agricultural Projects Board, to whom great credit is due. But any return to normality is being greatly hampered by labour troubles and wide-spread drought.

#### Malaya

In describing the position in Malaya last year, I find that my estimate that recovery in the production of rubber to pre-war levels would take at least two years, was over-optimistic, for already in December last production had all but reached pre-war proportions. On the other hand, production of tin in Malaya has fallen far short of even the lowest estimates then current. Actual production for 1946 is placed at 8,402 tons, and no great improvement in production is regarded as possible in the near future.

The position in Siam leaves a good deal to be desired. During the period when the country was under Japanese influence, the Currency became subject to considerable inflation, and on the recently into world markets, the parity of the Baht (or Baht) was reduced from the pre-war level of 1s. 10d. to 6d. Even so, difficulties experienced in enforcing adequate measures which had been devised to control imports, and exports, militated against the re-establishment of confidence. In the course of the year, the country has reached a stage of development which is a source of pride to the British.

the supreme importance to the neighbouring Malayan Union of an increase in supplies of rice, it is perhaps permissible to ask whether all available means, including, possibly, a further increase in price, have been adopted to ensure the greatest possible deliveries of rice in the present season and an extension of planting to augment supplies in the future.

#### Philippines

Conditions in the Philippines, where our three branches at Manila, Cebu and Iloilo are now working normally, have been dominated by the necessity for imports on a large scale, not only for reconstruction and rehabilitation, but to fill the void following the period of Japanese occupation. Exact statistics are not yet available, but imports for 1946 are estimated to have totalled upwards of some P.600 millions, against a pre-war figure of about P.250 millions, and as rehabilitation on any widespread scale has as yet made little headway, it is to be expected that imports must continue at a high level for some time to come. Exports for 1946 are placed no higher than about P. 140 millions, and consisted almost entirely of Copra and Abaca (Manila hemp), the export of Copra, due to the high prices ruling, having reached a record figure for the second half of the year. No export of Sugar, in pre-war days the most important of Philippine products, can be expected for a few years, possibly not until 1950, and the Gold Mining industry has yet to commence operations.

#### Hong Kong

Recovery in Hong Kong has been rapid, although, as in many other centres in the Far East, long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction has yet to be completed. The background in the greater urgency of current needs. The trade figures for 1946, with imports of £593,710,721, (£59,607,295) and exports of £322,750,350 (£31,421,897), against £599,523,149 (£37,470,187) and £308,788,829 (£38,049,302) respectively for 1939, show remarkable expansion, but the grave deterioration in China's financial and industrial position resulting in a drastic curtailment of her foreign trade, much of which normally passes through Hong Kong, cannot but adversely affect the future trade of the Colony. On the other hand, trade in increasing degree with the countries which came under Japanese domination, stand out clearly. The first is that, wherever a reasonable state of law and order has been re-established, the initial recovery, aided by the insistent demand and the existence of large supplies of the circulating media, has been swift; the second, that long-term recovery and the restoration of the internal economies of the various countries to pre-war levels, are likely to be both slow and arduous. Everywhere, even in countries where a reasonable external trade balance has been restored, as in Malaya and Hong Kong, local budgets remain gravely unbalanced, and it seems clear that a long period of laborious reconstruction lies ahead, on which, apart from any assistance which may be made available from external sources, savings from current operations will have to be expended for many years to come.

#### Urgent Problems

Hong Kong, however, faces other and equally difficult and urgent problems. Lacking adequate sources of revenue, and facing heavy expenditure both on account of reconstruction and for social services, education and public health on behalf of a vastly increased population, it is in a position which is not only a source of concern to the British, but also a source of concern to the Chinese.

## Hawker Arrested In V.A.D. Quarters

"This time I won't be so lenient with you. You will go to prison for nine months' hard labour," remarked Mr. Sheldon, K.C., at Central, yesterday when sentencing Chan So, 25, hawker, for being found at "Alberose," Pokfulam Road, on March 26 for an unlawful purpose.

Chan had a previous conviction for a similar offence for which he was bound over. Chan was discharged on a charge of receiving stolen property—some naval clothing—belonging to Petty Officer Russell W. Baxter, of the Naval Staff Quarters, Queen Mary Hospital.

According to DSI Moore, Nurse Kathleen J.S. Kegan, of V.A.D., who was on the first floor of the quarters at "Alberose" at 1.30 p.m. on

immigrants, whose movements have always been and remain uncontrolled.

Any attempt to sum up the position in China would require more space and knowledge than are at my disposal. It is unfortunate—almost a tragedy—that China, which was the first to suffer at the hands of the Japanese, should not yet be at peace within her own extensive territories, for only when China is united and able to give individual attention to all phases of her economic position, will recovery be possible. The effects of the long war of attrition to which China was subjected have been mitigated during the past two years by drawing freely upon accumulated foreign funds, by expenditure of U.S. troops in China and by the efforts of UNRRA, but China now faces the future with all these sources of assistance much reduced. The recent measures for the control of imports and prohibiting the circulation of foreign currencies within the country were rendered almost inevitable by the contraction of China's reserves of foreign currency and by the quickening tempo of inflation, which, however, there is no remedy save in a return to orthodox in matters of finance. This may not be possible until China is at peace within her own gates, and in any case, without outside assistance, recovery to economic stability could only be achieved at the expense of the general standard of living throughout the country.

#### Return To Japan

The only major field in which the Bank formerly operated and to which we have been unable to return is Japan, which remains under the Control of General MacArthur. There are encouraging signs, however, that the time is approaching when re-entry of representatives of banks and business firms which formerly operated in Japan may be permitted.

In considering trading conditions in the territories which the Bank serves, two features, common to all the countries which came under Japanese domination, stand out clearly. The first is that, wherever a reasonable state of law and order has been re-established, the initial recovery, aided by the insistent demand and the existence of large supplies of the circulating media, has been swift; the second, that long-term recovery and the restoration of the internal economies of the various countries to pre-war levels, are likely to be both slow and arduous. Everywhere, even in countries where a reasonable external trade balance has been restored, as in Malaya and Hong Kong, local budgets remain gravely unbalanced, and it seems clear that a long period of laborious reconstruction lies ahead, on which, apart from any assistance which may be made available from external sources, savings from current operations will have to be expended for many years to come.

#### The Moratorium

What means can be adopted to ensure that the various countries to which the Bank is lending money are able to meet their obligations? The answer is that the Bank must ensure that the money is lent to countries which are able to meet their obligations.

## Exhibition Tennis

An interesting series of exhibition tennis matches among leading players of the Colony has been arranged by the tennis committee of the Hong Kong Cricket Club for the latter part of April and the whole of May.

Two games will be played every Monday and Thursday in the exhibition which will consist of Mixed Doubles, Men's Doubles and Singles matches.

In order to ensure two games on each date arranged, a reserve match has also been arranged. The following is the programme:—

April 14:—Miss Zinovieff & Fay v. Mrs. Laderriere & Pagh. Tui Brothers v. Yip Koon Hoong & Paul King. Reserves:—Segalen Brothers v. Kotewall & George Lin. April 17:—Mrs. Andrews & Y. Tui v. Mrs. Young & Kenneth Lo. Jones & Zimmern v. Lee Wai Tung & Szeto. Reserves:—M. W. Lo & Ho Ka Lau v. Eric Lee & Manan Ma. April 21:—Miss Zinovieff & Paul King v. Mrs. Litton & Yip Koon Hoong. Tui Yui Pui & Lee Wai Tung v. M. Pagh & B. C. Fay. Reserves:—R. Liang & George Lin v. G. Choa & Lau King. April 24:—Mrs. Andrews & R. Liang v. Mrs. Thomson & Tui Wai Pui. Eric Lee v. George Lin. Reserves:—Zimmern v. Szeto. April 28:—Miss Zinovieff & Jones v. Mrs. Young & Yip Koon Hoong. Au Kam Moon v. F. H. Kwok. Reserves:—Eric Lee & T. F. Choy. May 1:—L. C. Kotewall & G. Choa v. Au Kam Moon & Wong Sui Ki. Miss Zinovieff & Mrs. Andrews v. Mrs. Litton & Mrs. Thomson. Reserves:—T. F. Fan v. R. Segalen. May 5:—Mrs. Laderriere & Pagh v. Mrs. Young & Tui Wai Pui. H. D. Ramjahn & Jones v. R. & Y. Segalen. Reserves:—Lau King & Manan Ma v. F. H. Kwok & Ho Ka Lau. May 8:—Eric Lee & T. F. Fan v. Au Kam Moon & Wong Sui Ki. Roch Liang v. George Lin. Reserves:—Lee Wai Tung v. George Choa. May 12:—Mrs. Chiu & Tui Wai Pui v. Mrs. Thomson & Tui Yui Pui. Lau King v. Manan Ma. Reserves:—Kenneth Lo v. T. F. Choy. May 15:—Kotewall & H. D. Ramjahn v. R. & Y. Segalen. Paul King v. T. F. Fan. Reserves:—Mrs. Laderriere & Zimmern v. Mrs. Andrews & Jones. May 19:—Mrs. Litton & Yip Koon Hoong v. Mrs. Thomson & Jones. Au Kam Moon v. F. Zimmern. Reserves:—Wong Sui Ki v. Lee Wai Tung. May 22:—Mrs. Laderriere & Fay v. Mrs. Andrews & G. Lin. Ho Ka Lau v. T. F. Choy. Reserves:—Roch Liang v. Lau King. May 26:—Mrs. Thomson & Ramjahn v. Mrs. Litton & M. W. Lo. Lee Wai Tung & Szeto v. Kotewall & George Choa. Reserves:—B. C. Fay v. F. H. Kwok. May 29:—Yip Koon Hoong & Tui Yui Pui v. Paul King & Mrs. Chiu & Pagh v. Mrs. Young & Fay. Reserves:—Kenneth Lo v. Y. Segalen. All Reserves are asked to be ready to play at 5 p.m. each day and not to leave the Stand Court until Match No. 2 is already underway. All players are asked to secure substitutes of strength equal to themselves if unable to play at last moment. Exhibition Matches are postponed they will be staged on the first playing day after the postponement—in other words the Exhibition will only be postponed from day to day. It is intended to adhere strictly to this Programme and a very sincere apology of good Tennis is in store for all players and lovers of this game.

## Cannes Tennis

Cannes, Mar. 31. Pauline Betts of Los Angeles advanced to the final round of the Pauline Betts Memorial Tennis Tournament with a 6-0, 6-2 victory over Alice Walmsley of Luxembourg.

The American champion's opponent in the final today is Miss Gullbrandson of Sweden, who defeated Lydia Murray of Rumania 7-5, 8-6.

Miss Betts and Philip Walton, British champion, played a very close match, but Betts won 6-4, 6-3.

## LABOUR REBELS GET A SCOLDING

London, Mar. 30. Some 75 Labour Members of Parliament will be scolded at a special and strictly private meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party tomorrow morning because they had signed the amendment asking Parliament to reject the bill to impose peacetime conscription. It will be pointed out to them that the international situation generally, Britain's many commitments abroad and the desirability of spreading the burden fairly over all sections of the community make compulsory service for all young men, except miners, the only solution.

"The rebels" will reply that men are needed more urgently in industry than in the forces, that the cost of the services is far too high, that it has always been the Labour Party policy to oppose peacetime conscription, that in any case it should not be adopted until the forces have been made more democratic and that some Labour members are emphatically against it on religious and conscientious grounds.

At the end of the private meeting, the "rebels" will be asked to respect the Government decision and not to vote against the conscription bill. They will be at liberty to abstain from voting and it is probable that a good many will do so and only a minority, who feel particularly strongly about the matter, will go into the Lobby against the Government.

#### Tory Support

Disciplinary action is not likely to be taken against them for doing so though it may be threatened. The Liberals will oppose the bill on constitutional and economic grounds.

A two-day debate on the bill will begin tomorrow and end on Tuesday night. When the vote is taken, the Conservatives will join the Government in support of the bill, because they feel that Britain's obligations make it imperative.

The Opposition leader, Mr. Winston Churchill, will be the principal speaker. He will have a lot to say about limiting the size of the services so that men will not be wasting time when they could be adding industrial recovery.

Mr. George Isaacs, Minister of Labour, and Mr. A. V. Alexander, Minister of Defence, will speak for the Government and Mr. Clement Davies for the Liberals.—Reuter.

## Tsui Loses Semi-Final

On the stand court yesterday, Ip Koon-hong beat Tsui Wai-pui in the Semi-final of the Open Singles Tennis Championship by 6-4, 6-4 and 6-1 before a large crowd.

It was always in the lead and in the first two sets led at one time by 6 games to 1. Tsui's service was very weak and many valuable points through this.

In the quarter-finals Tsui Yan-pui was fully extended by Choa who won the first set and forced Tsui to the 12th game before he lost. Tsui was staidier in the last set and won easily.

The following were yesterday's results:—Ip Koon-hong beat Tsui Wai-pui 6-4, 6-4, 6-1. Tsui Yan-pui beat G. Choa 3-6, 7-5, 6-3.

Lam Kwan and Wong Hok beat Lau King and M. Ma 6-4, 6-1.

Today's Programme

Lam Kwan and Wong Hok v. Tsui Yan-pui and Tui Wai-pui. (Stand Court).

Yip Koon Hoong and Paul King v. George Lin and Roch La Liang.

#### MIELS' NEXT

London, Mar. 31. Freddie Mills, British light heavyweight boxing champion, left London Sunday by plane for Johannesburg, where he will fight Johnny Ralph of South Africa on April 14.

He plans to return soon afterwards for a proposed match with Lloyd Marshall of America in London.—Associated Press.

Warwick, Mar. 30. The trial of the Oysekian (Aghachian) commander, Rudolf Hoag, ended last night with the defendant stating: "My heart belongs to Daddy."

Hoag's father, a well-known American humorist, is a well-known figure in the world of comedy. He collaborated with Ogden Nash in the musical play "One Touch of Venus" which was a Broadway hit and introduced to musical comedy the "Yiddish" song. Hoag's father, a well-known American humorist, is a well-known figure in the world of comedy.

## Meeting Of British Legion

At a preliminary meeting held in the Volunteers' canteen, Garden Road, yesterday evening a working committee was formed of the Hong Kong & China branch of the British Legion to draw up plans for what, it is hoped, will be the first real meeting since the War, on April 21.

Mr. E. J. R. Mitchell took the chair, and commented on the sparse attendance. This, he said, could well be attributed to the fact that many ex-Servicemen, especially those of the Second Great War, did not know much about the British Legion or what its functions were.

Primarily, he pointed out, it aims at assisting the ex-Servicemen in time of need, financially or otherwise. That need may not exist at the moment, but few ex-Servicemen today would be prepared to say that they faced the future with an absolutely untroubled eye.

The second main function is the organization of Poppy Day in Hong Kong. Poppy Day in the Colony last year brought special praise from the parent organisation, Mr. Mitchell said, for it realised the magnificent sum of £4,000. It is hoped that 1947 for the first time since 1939, real silk poppies from Home will be available for sale in the Colony.

The third function is a social one, aimed at keeping ex-Servicemen in touch with each other. This fell into semi-obscure shortly before World War II but providing the response and support expected is forthcoming, it is hoped to revive this side of the Legion's activities in the Colony. All ex-Servicemen and ex-Servicemen of both World Wars are eligible for membership in the Legion.

Supporting Mr. Mitchell in the chair yesterday were Messrs. C. Blaker, F. Franklin and L. O. Davis.

## American Humorist In H.K.

One of America's leading humorists, Mr. S. J. Perelman, is in the Colony on a short visit, accompanied by Mr. Al Herschfield, the "New York Times" caricaturist.

The two are collaborating on a travel book with the tentative title "Around the World in 80 Cliches" and are taking Macau into their itinerary.

Mr. Perelman is a well-known name to the many readers of the "New Yorker" and is the author of "and beat-set" "Crash" as a Fox which established him in the front rank of American humorists.

His latest work, published last year, is a collection of humorous essays against the background of Hollywood and the American advertising world, under the title "Keep It Crisp." Most of these essays appeared originally in the "New Yorker" between 1943 and 1946.

Mr. Perelman is a well-known name also in the musical comedy. He collaborated with Ogden Nash in the musical play "One Touch of Venus" which was a Broadway hit and introduced to musical comedy the "Yiddish" song. Hoag's father, a well-known American humorist, is a well-known figure in the world of comedy.

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